

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

Thinking man's guide to genes and genius

Spliced to J.S. Bach, page 14

LEADERSHIP IN SPORT

BRITISH CHALLENGE

How to revive our sporting prowess

David Miller, page 21



LIBBY PURVES

Hang-ups of the great unlisted

Shame of ex-directory, page 12

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THE TIMES

No. 64,825 MONDAY DECEMBER 13 1993

IRA murders two more policemen

Major under pressure in Ulster talks

BY PHILIP WEBSTER
POLITICAL EDITOR

■ A key decision on the fate of the peace process will be made today when Mr Major and Mr Reynolds decide if they can risk another meeting

JOHN Major was caught between fierce and conflicting pressures from the Ulster Unionists, Dublin and the IRA last night as the Anglo-Irish peace initiative faced a make-or-break week.

Mr Major will decide today with Albert Reynolds, Prime Minister of the Irish Republic, whether to hold a third and potentially decisive meeting later this week. He will do so in the face of renewed killing by the IRA, which murdered two policemen in Co Tyrone in an attempt to put pressure on him to make concessions on a peace formula: of a warning from the Unionists that they will withdraw parliamentary support if he reneges on promises to them; and of signals from the government of the republic that it wants him to give more ground.

In a fresh twist, Mr Reynolds disclosed that he was no longer pressing for Mr Major to commit Britain to accepting the value of the goal of Irish unity in the declaration that both hope to unveil before Christmas. He does appear, however, to want Mr Major to give a stronger affirmation of the right of the people in the whole of Ireland to determine their own future, almost certainly by separate but parallel referendums on the outcome of any constitutional settlement in the North and South.

After the IRA killing of policemen in an ambush in in Co Tyrone, republican sources said the murders were designed to show that the IRA was not weary of conflict and that there could be a worsening of violence if the peace process fails.

The killings brought to six — three members of the security forces and three Roman Catholics — murdered by rival terrorist groups in the nine days since Mr Major and Mr Reynolds met in Dublin to try to agree a peace formula.

Mr Reynolds raised the stakes again by making plain that he would sign a joint declaration only if it had a good chance of ending violence. Although he claimed that "70 per cent progress" had been achieved, he added that he would not sign an "anodyne" document that offered no advance towards peace. He said he hoped that the proposed declaration would mark a new beginning, of which the starting point would be a permanent end to violence.

Mr Major and Mr Reynolds will speak on the telephone today to review progress made by their officials in resolving outstanding difficulties since their last meeting, on Friday.



Reynolds: wants London to give more ground

Some of them, including Rod Lyne, Mr Major's foreign affairs private secretary, stayed behind in Brussels to work over the weekend.

Before they talk Mr Major may call a meeting of his special cabinet group on Northern Ireland. Officials declined to say whether a meeting would be held this week but hoped that in any case one would be held before Christmas.

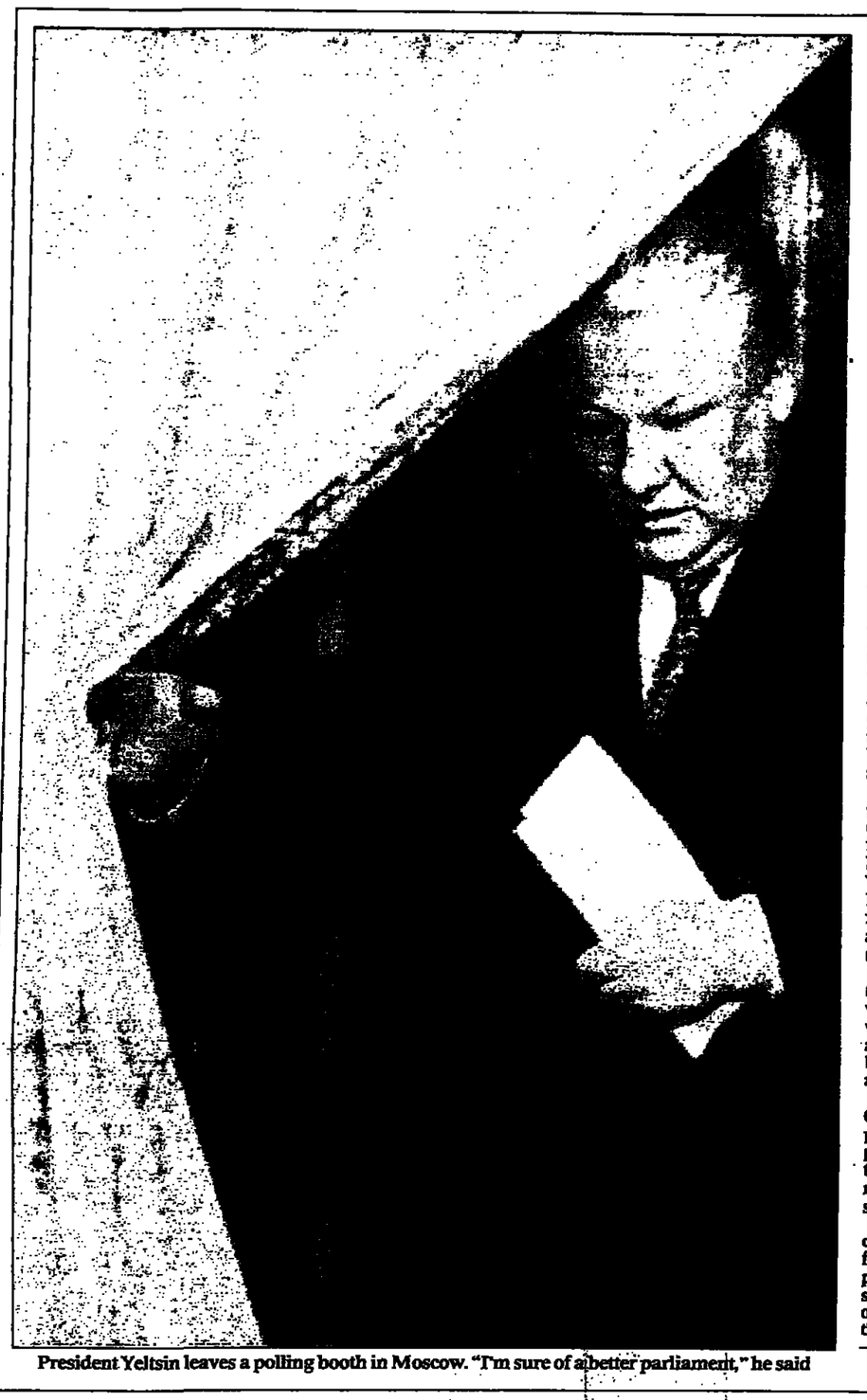
In an obvious attempt to dissuade Mr Major from concessions, the Unionists intensified their warnings to him. John Taylor, Ulster Unionist MP for Strangford, said that his party would help to bring the Government down if there was any move towards a united Ireland.

The Unionists would cease to have a working relationship with the Government at Westminster and would move to a position "where we would support a vote of no confidence in the Government and bring about an early election." He said: "I hope that does not happen, but clearly we would have no alternative if this Government lets us down."

David Trimble, MP for Upper Bann, said the Unionists were worried about the dangers of surrendering to terrorism. "Why are we talk-

Continued on page 2, col 5

Attacks planned, page 2



President Yeltsin leaves a polling booth in Moscow. "I'm sure of a better parliament," he said

Low turnout at poll puts Yeltsin plan in jeopardy

FROM ANNE MCELVOY IN MOSCOW

THE fate of President Yeltsin's proposed constitution looked uncertain last night as the country's first post-Soviet elections drew a low turnout, hovering close to the 50 per cent participation needed to validate the referendum. With an hour to go until close of polling, Nikolai Ryabov, head of the Central Electoral Commission, expressed "a high degree of certainty" that the 50 per cent hurdle had been passed.

A wave of panic swept through the presidential camp earlier when officials reported that only 38 per cent of the 107 million electorate had cast their votes by early evening. Mr Yeltsin needs the support of half the voters from the required 50 per cent turnout to enact the constitution which gives him sweeping powers and enshrines its supremacy to parliament.

Russians were asked to vote simultaneously on the new constitution and for a two-chamber parliament, the Federal Assembly, to replace the hostile Supreme Soviet dissolved by Mr Yeltsin in the autumn with the help of the army and security forces.

The first exit polls from the Far East have not given the President and his supporters much cause for cheer on this count either: they indicate that Russia's Choice, the pro-Yeltsin bloc, may be followed in second place by Vladimir Zhirinovsky's neo-Fascist Liberal Democratic Party, which has campaigned on a xenophobic and extreme nationalist platform and is likely to prove a troublesome factor in the new parliament.

Mr Yeltsin turned out early in the morning to vote, trudging through snow in Moscow with his wife Naina before casting his vote with an expression of grim determination. "I am an optimist by nature and I am sure that a better parliament, more intellectual, intelligent and politically literate will be elected," he said.

Patriach Aleksei II, head of the Orthodox Church, who failed in his attempts to mediate a peaceful solution to the clash between the old parliament and presidency in October, said that he hoped that the election would end the modern "time of troubles" the country has suffered in the past three years.

A failure to secure approval for his his draft constitution would be a severe embarrassment for Mr Yeltsin, given that it required only 25 per cent of the total electorate's backing to succeed. A close result may increase pressure on him to face re-election next summer rather than at the end of his full term in 1996.

Voters in disarray, page 9

INDEX

Arts	27,28
Births, marriages, deaths	16
Books	29
Business	32-34,36
Chess	8,36
Court and Social	16
Crossword	36
Diary	14
Education	31
Leading articles	15
Letters	15
Obituaries	17
Racing	23
Sport	19-26
Times Today	18
Times Two Crossword	36
Weather	18
TV & Radio	35

THE TIMES

Sales of *The Times* in November rose to 445,343, an increase of more than 91,000 since the price was reduced to 30p in September. *The Times* last month sold 131,000 more copies a day than *The Independent*, whose sales are down 15 per cent on a year ago, and 43,700 copies more than *The Guardian*.

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Negotiators accused of brinkmanship as Gatt stumbles towards deadline

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN GENEVA

AS THE hours ticked away to a deadline set by the US Congress, American and European negotiators in the world trade talks were searching desperately last night for ways out of the crisis afflicting the seven-year-old talks.

Both sides came under pressure from Peter Sutherland, the director-general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt). He accused both America and the European Community of putting a "tantalisingly close" treaty "dangerously at risk" by prolonging their disputes too close to this week's deadline.

Mr Sutherland categorically denied that he had any intention of "stopping the clock" by prolonging the talks beyond a deadline of five o'clock (London time) on Thursday morning, after which President Clinton's "fast-track" negotiating authority runs out. Mr Clinton would need Congressional approval to extend the talks for even a day. An American spokesman said last night that he saw "zero" chance that the talks could carry on past the deadline.

Sir Leon Brittan, the EC's trade Commissioner, said the talks were blocked on a a wide range of subjects. "We have very severe problems at the moment," he said, "I think that we have a bit of a crisis on our hands."

Mickey Kantor, the American trade chief, acknowledged that talks on films and television, shipping and civil aircraft had made little progress over the weekend. One EC official said that negotiations on American films and programmes in European markets had "regressed".

Mr Sutherland hinted that the most dangerous paralysis was being caused by American obduracy over plans to replace Gatt with a more powerful Multilateral Trade Organisation (MTO). The MTO threatens to dilute the strength of America's powerful unilateral trade sanctions which have been used with increasing frequency in recent years.

Much of the recent discussion involved the delicate question of identifying intractable issues that could be dropped from the treaty without destroying the entire document. EC sources suggested that disputes over shipping, aircraft and audiovisual markets were all being considered for exclusion.

Mr Sutherland recognised that negotiators for the world's two main trading blocs were trying hard to eliminate their final disagreements but complained that political leaders were failing to confront the risks of compromise.

"They are trying, but trying has to be about conclusions," he said.

Mr Sutherland's warning to Washington and Brussels came on the eve of a meeting of EC foreign ministers in Brussels today which will be devoted to persuading the French government to endorse a final deal. The meeting will also hear complaints from the Greek and Danish governments, which are furious about the disappointing size of a recent American offer on access to its shipping market, as well as Portuguese demands for compensation for damage to its textile industry.

Gatt ringmaster, page 11

Withdrawal from Gaza delayed

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

ISRAEL and the Palestine Liberation Organisation failed in talks yesterday to solve problems holding up the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the Gaza Strip and Jericho due to start today.

Yassir Arafat, the PLO leader, looked despondent after the talks in Cairo with Yitzhak Rabin, Israel's Prime Minister. He said both sides were still committed to the peace accord they signed in September "but we have some differences over some points and we agreed to have another meeting within the next ten days".

Mr Rabin said he had no doubt the two sides would reach agreement. "But we need a little bit more time."

Deadline missed, page 10
Leading article, page 15

Workmen damage Windsor Castle wall paintings

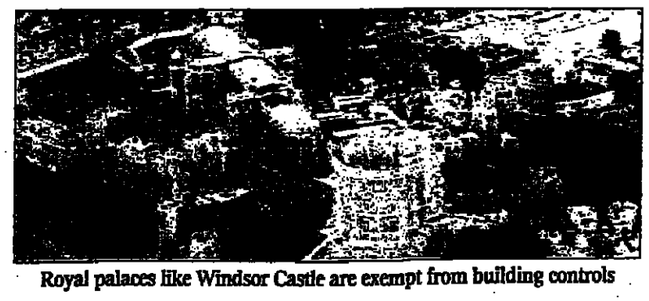
BY MARCUS BINNEY

UNIQUE medieval wall paintings at Windsor Castle have been badly damaged during modernisation work, prompting calls last night for new controls on work at royal palaces.

Workmen cut channels for new cables in the walls of King John's Tower without realising that they were damaging the paintings, which had been covered with a layer of whitewash. The work was brought to a sudden halt as showers of coloured paint and gilding came out of the 14th century masonry.

Art historians expressed amazement that the workmen had not been told what lay beneath the surface of the walls. Details of the paintings are well documented in a history of the castle commissioned by Edward VII.

Historians called for a change to the system in which alterations to palaces still in royal use are exempt from normal listed building controls.



Royal palaces like Windsor Castle are exempt from building controls

Details of the damage to the wall paintings have just emerged even though it happened shortly before the fire which swept through other parts of the castle in November last year.

John Harris, the architectural historian and president of the International Confederation of Architectural Museums, said: "Here is yet another example of the Property Services Agency and its successors failing to consult historians before embarking on irreversible alterations to important historic fabric. In this case it is even worse because there has clearly been an attempted cover-up."

Reference to the paintings was made in an internal report, seen by *The Times*, by English Heritage in January, but no specific mention of the damage was made. The report describes "a stunningly intricate pattern of roses in foliate borders against a star-covered background."

It adds: "The wall painting is clearly in a poor condition and likely to be actively deteriorating. It is essential that the necessary conservation treatment is undertaken." The conservation work has not been carried out.

The paintings are on the first and second floors of King John's tower in the castle's upper ward. They have been covered with whitewash since at least Georgian times. The tower

Continued on page 2, col 3



IRA godfathers keep bombs primed in peace gamble

By Michael Evans and Edward Gorman

■ Playing with ceasefires is a tricky business for the men who lead the IRA. If they fail to win concessions from the government they will be kicked out

IRA leaders are feared to be planning a new round of bomb attacks on the mainland as they suspect that the Ulster peace initiative will fail to bring the concessions they seek, particularly the right of the Irish people to national self-determination.

The seven men on the IRA's army council hold the key to whether the talks between London and Dublin will lead to an end to the violence or a resurgence of bombings in Britain and Ulster. The seven are a disparate group. They avoid being seen together in Northern Ireland because of the risk of being prosecuted under the "godfather" clause contained in the amended legislation introduced in 1990 that created a new crime of directing terrorist organisations.

Based on American anti-Mafia law, the legislation has yet to be used, but the IRA leaders are aware of its potential. The IRA hierarchy keeps no records and maintains a strict cell structure in which active service units carry out bombing missions without specific orders.

The security authorities have little to go on in trying to pin blame on the IRA leaders. Under the godfather legislation, they can face charges if it can be proved they are meeting to organise terrorism. When they need to make decisions on strategy, they have to take elaborate precautions to evade surveillance.

It is believed that they never meet in Ulster but travel individually for secret sessions in the south. Their names and backgrounds are well known to the security authorities. Some live in the province, others, including a longstanding IRA terrorist leader, live in the south.

The IRA's army council will have taken soundings from their members, particularly the frontline bombers and gunmen, before they began making peace overtures to the government. However, since a long ceasefire could undermine their ability to restart a bombing campaign, there is a risk that the IRA could resort to an attack on the mainland to prove they are still in business. The have the capability to continue their violence almost indefinitely.

Two ceasefires in the early 1970s are remembered by the IRA as moments when the movement came closest to defeat.

The organisation's motivation and intent, its two principal driving forces, could be permanently weakened by a long ceasefire. At present, however, the IRA leaders appear to have the backing for a peace policy. They know that the bombing campaigns of the past have won them no concessions.

One long-time Dublin-based observer of the IRA said: "This peace policy is a major gamble for them. They know from past experience that there are difficulties in trying to restart the war. They certainly do not want to enter into any kind of ceasefire unless they are pretty sure they are going to gain something."

The experience of the 1970s showed that attempts to implement ceasefires placed the leadership of the republican movement in a vulnerable position. The Dublin expert said: "They've got total control at the moment but if they can't deliver the goods, they'll be kicked out."

Unionists dismiss talks as mockery after RUC deaths

By Nicholas Watt, Ireland Correspondent

IRA gunmen murdered two policemen early yesterday in Co Tyrone after opening fire on their patrol car at point blank range. The officers died at the scene in Fivemiletown.

The two gunmen approached the unmarked patrol car on foot at just after 1.30 am as it came to a junction in the town centre. They then fired more than 30 shots from automatic weapons on either side of the car before escaping in a waiting car. The IRA said in a statement last night that it had carried out the shootings.

The two victims were Constable William Beacom, 46, of Fivemiletown, married with three children, and Reserve Constable Ernest Smith, 49, of Augher, Co Tyrone, was married with two children. Both men were based at Clogher RUC station. Con Beacom had served with the RUC for 24 years, Res Con Smith for 19 years.

Yesterday the RUC and the Army launched a big security operation in the town. Extra police and soldiers were flown in by helicopters.

Detectives were last night questioning a number of men in connection with the shootings.

It was the worst IRA incident since the Shankill bomb in October and brought to six the number of RUC officers killed this year. That is twice as many as last year.

Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, condemned the murders as a sickening crime. He said: "I grieve for the families of these brave officers whose lives were dedicated to the service of the entire community," adding that the murderers would be hunted down by the police. "Let them know that violence is going to bring them no advantage; only long years behind the wire."

Sir Hugh Annesley, the RUC Chief Constable, was due last night to visit the relatives of the officers who lived in villages near Fivemiletown. Sir Hugh condemned the murders as a "senseless act of barbarity" carried out by criminals.

He said: "At a time when the whole community is looking towards peace, the Provisional IRA have yet again shown they have absolutely nothing to offer but death and suffering."

Unionist politicians said that the killings showed that the peace initiative by John Hume of the Social Democratic and Labour Party and Gerry Adams of Sinn Fein was defunct. Ken Maginnis, the Ulster Unionist MP for Fermanagh and South Tyrone, who visited the scene of the killings, said: "It shows the mockery of the Hume-Adams peace initiative. It means absolutely nothing. There is no evidence that the Provisional IRA are intending to move away from violence. This will be the message to the government."

The shootings came after weeks of speculation that the IRA were about to launch what has come to be known as a "spectacular" attack. It is believed that the IRA want to try to negotiate from what they believe is a position of strength, and to register their anger with the government for allegedly turning down an IRA ceasefire in May.

MI6 man was IRA go-between

By Our Defence Correspondent

A SENIOR MI6 officer, codenamed Mountain Climber, was used as a go-between in contacts with the IRA which led to the most recent exchanges between the Government and the terrorist organisation.

The officer, named as Michael Oatley, a former head of MI6's Middle East section, retired from the secret intelligence service in 1990 and works in London as a senior director for Kroll Associates, corporate security specialists. Mr Oatley, 58, is understood to have made his first contacts with the IRA while serving as an MI6 officer attached to the Northern Ireland Office in Belfast between 1973 and 1975. He was awarded an OBE in 1975 for his covert work in Ulster.

In his recent revelations in the Commons about past contacts with the IRA, Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, said they had been restricted to communications through independent intermediaries. However, he admitted there had been two "unauthorised" meetings.

One of them was in 1990 with Martin McGuinness of Sinn Fein, and the "unauthorised" representive who met him was believed to be Mr Oatley.

The alleged involvement of a senior MI6 officer could put Sir Patrick under further pressure to explain how such contacts could be classed as unauthorised. Yesterday Mr Oatley was not available for comment.

Major under pressure, page 1

Police in riot gear clear squatters at dawn

ROBIN MAYES



A woman is escorted from one of the largest squats in Britain yesterday, which was cleared by about 250 police in a dawn operation. Scores of police in riot gear followed by sheriff's officers with helmets and sledgehammers charged into six entrances of Rutland Park Mansions in Willesden Green, north London, where about 150 people had been living. The squatters left with minimal resistance and the 42 flats were cleared within 35 minutes.

There were no arrests or injuries as about 40 people were turned out of the flats. Chief Superintendent David Jarvis said.

The council is due to sell the property tomorrow for £540,000 to Paddington Churches Housing Association which is to build 36 flats to house homeless families.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Heseltine may bow out before election

Michael Heseltine gave a clear signal yesterday that he would step down as a minister before the next general election. In the first public indication that his heart attack last June had taken a toll, the President of the Board of Trade made it plain that he had no ambitions to be Chancellor or Foreign Secretary.

He said he wanted to stay at trade and industry for two more years to see the job through but gave no sign that he had designs on any other frontbench job. Mr Heseltine told BBC1's *Breakfast with Frost*: "I've never wanted the Chancellery. I've never seen myself as a sort of finance director."

Pay-offs queried

The prime minister was urged yesterday to review legislation covering severance pay received by ministers whether they resign or are sacked. Matthew Taylor, Liberal Democrat MP for Truro, who has calculated the pay-offs for Norman Lamont and David Mellor as £8,049, asked whether ministers should be protected where the public is not.

School plan 'perverse'

Government plans to let special schools opt out of local authority control will leave the education of vulnerable children at the mercy of the marketplace, Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said last night. He dismissed as "perverse" proposals that would allow 1,300 special schools to seek grant-maintained status.

Branson in lottery bid

Richard Branson is expected to announce today a charity-based bid to run the National Lottery in association with a group of senior political figures. At present only 23 per cent of the stake money is expected to be handed out to the arts, charities and British heritage, while 15 per cent has been set aside for the lottery operator and ticket retailers.

Labour reviews benefit

Plans to overhaul child benefit by taxing it and abolishing the married couple's tax allowance are put forward by Labour's social justice commission today. Its report has virtually ruled out means-testing, which is being considered by the Government's social security review. The report says more than one in five children live in poverty.

BBC picks Dimbleby



The BBC has chosen David Dimbleby, right, to chair *Question Time*. Mr Dimbleby, 55, pipped the younger but more abrasive Jeremy Paxman to take over from Peter Sissons. He was chosen after the two took part in a dress rehearsal of the show. Mr Dimbleby, who has worked for the BBC for 31 years, said he planned a "hustings-style" programme with shorter answers from panellists.

Royal bombs scare

Sixty phosphorous bombs were found on the Queen's Sandringham estate in Norfolk at the weekend. A metal-detector enthusiast unearthed them in woods near where the Queen rides her horses. The Second World War bombs had been buried in a crate near a public driveway. The area was sealed off and they were removed and detonated at a quarry.

Worse weather ahead

Heavy snow and flooding caused a spate of road closures, accidents and abandoned sports fixtures yesterday as the London Weather Centre predicted colder weather and more snow storms. Rowland Perkins, a canoeist, drowned when he got into difficulties on the fast-flowing River Teifi at Pentre-cwrt, Dyfed. Forecast and photograph, page 18



Cabinet ministers fly the flag for King Charles III

By Jill Sherman and Ruth Gledhill

TWO Cabinet ministers entered the dispute over the Prince of Wales's succession to the throne yesterday as the Archdeacon of York claimed that a survey of the clergy had vindicated his stand against the prince becoming king.

Lord Wakeham, Leader of the House of Lords, and William Waldegrave, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, both penned articles in Sunday newspapers championing the prince's case to succeed his mother.

The articles were cleared by the Prime Minister, but Downing Street denied that Mr Major had instigated any co-ordinated expression of support and made it clear he wished to keep out of the debate.

Meanwhile the archdeacon, the Venerable George Austin, who last week questioned the prince's suitability to become king or supreme governor of the Church, claimed that a poll of the General Synod carried out by *The Sunday Times* supported his case.

The survey of 100 members of the synod indicates that 47 per cent think the prince should not become supreme governor, while 27 per cent say he should not be king if he has had an affair. More than one third support disestablishment and only 37 per cent support his right to be supreme governor if he is shown to be an adulterer.

The archdeacon said yesterday that a number of surveys had indicated "that there's a strong feeling in the country and unwittingly I seem to have touched a nerve". He claimed he had a 100 letters supporting him and 48 against.

Writing in *The Sunday Telegraph*, Mr Waldegrave said the prince would in due course become king and argued that he had prepared himself for the role more conscientiously than most in a long line of predecessors.

Mr Waldegrave wrote: "If we have only eyes to see the truth, we should see that we have both in the present monarch and her heir two people who have undertaken their duty to us far more devotedly than we have any right to expect."

The prince's "unhappy marriage" should be a matter of sorrow and sympathy, not an occasion for "savage exploitation and prurient gossip".

Lord Wakeham, writing in *The Mail on Sunday*, also had no doubts that the prince would succeed the Queen. "Make no mistake, one day our monarch will be King Charles III. That is a constitutional certainty and for Prince Charles it is not a job option but a duty for which he has prepared himself throughout his life."

Royal paintings damaged

Continued from page 1

formed a direct entrance to Edward III's royal apartments. A leading medieval historian said: "These are the only painted medieval interiors used by the royal family — royal chapels apart — that survive."

The history of the castle, commissioned by Edward VII from the antiquary W St John Hope, cites medieval documents listing the actual paints supplied for painting the tower and names the chief painter as William Burdon.

An expert on the conservation of medieval wall paintings said last night: "English painting of this date is technically much more complex than Italian. The work may not be Giotto but it is of the highest quality.

"There is potentially an enormous amount of colour there. For equivalant mid-14th century wall paintings you would have to go to Karlstein Castle, south of Prague."

The English Heritage report says that "the design was executed in brilliant emerald green on a deep crimson background. The pigments exactly match those in the royal accounts of 1366."

Between 1357 and 1368 Edward III spent £40,000 on Windsor Castle, making it the most expensive secular building project in the later middle ages. The sum compares to the £42,000 spent by Henry II on Westminster Abbey a century earlier.

A well-known architectural historian said yesterday that "the time has come to revive the post of Surveyor of the King's Works, to ensure such lapses do not happen in the future".

Major faces pressure over Ulster

Continued from page 1

ing about change when the people of Northern Ireland do not want change," he asked. He suggested that the guarantee on Ulster's future that Mr Reynolds is prepared to see included in the declaration was valueless because it was contrary to the constitution of the republic.

In an interview on the BBC1 programme *On the Record*, Mr Reynolds was asked whether he was requiring Britain to acknowledge the value of a united Ireland.

He said such issues were not to be addressed in the peace declaration. They raised fears in people's minds. "We are not getting involved in that at this stage. We want first of all to try to get peace."

The removal of the reference to the goal of Irish unity will please the Unionists, but in order to persuade the IRA to call off its violence Mr Reynolds seems certain to press for concessions over the vexed issue of "self-determination", which Protestant leaders regard as the thin end of the wedge.

In an early draft of the declaration Mr Reynolds is understood to accept that "the democratic right of self-determination by the people of Ireland as a whole must be exercised with and achieved subject to the agreement and consent of the people of Northern Ireland."

Mr Major, however, is expected to re-state that Britain has "no selfish, strategic or economic interest" in the province.

Mr Reynolds's proposal for an all-Ireland convention of political parties, including Sinn Fein, also remains a tough sticking point.



Just released for Christmas, The Times Crosswords — [illegible] Mass [illegible]

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Rescuers praise yachtswoman for life-saving courage

By Ian Murray

AN AMATEUR sailor who spent six hours trapped under a capsized trimaran was praised yesterday for saving the lives of her fellow crew.

The Royal Navy, Coastguard and lifeboat service highlighted the bravery of Heidi Bell, who survived for six hours in an air bubble after diving into mountainous seas off the Isle of Wight to recover flares to summon help.

Miles Mence, a lifeboatman called to the scene, said last night: "She was terribly brave. She must have been awfully frightened in there but she never gave up." He added that without the flares, the yacht may never have been found.

The racing trimaran, *Triharder*, was flipped over by an 8 ft foot wave in force 6 winds in treacherous waters off the Needles at lunch time on Saturday.

The owner, Nick Slocum, 40, Miss Bell, 26, and the other crew member, Dr Stephanie Merry, 40, were flung into the water but managed to clamber aboard the upturned hull.

There was no ship in sight and all the flares were in lockers inside the hull. Without hesitation Miss Bell plunged three times into the surging waves, diving beneath the hull to get into the cabin, where the flares were stored. None of the first flares they fired were seen.

By the third time Miss Bell dived in, the masts and rigging of the capsized boat were beginning to break up and she was frightened of getting tangled in the trailing wreckage. Shouting through the hull, Mr Slocum advised her to stay put, out of the wind.

He fired another flare and this time it was spotted, 2½ hours after the capsize. The Coastguard was notified and contacted Yarmouth lifeboat and the Royal Navy rescue helicopter at Portland. Miss Bell wedged two oars across lockers in the cabin and crouched on them to wait in the darkness, her head banging against the hull.



Bell: spent six hours trapped in air bubble

The navy's diver was unable to get through the tangled wreckage in the heavy seas and it was decided to tow the yacht to calmer water off Yarmouth. The Yarmouth lifeboat arrived to take the yacht in tow and took Dr Merry off. Mr Slocum insisted on staying astride his boat, shouting encouragement to Miss Bell.

By the time they reached Yarmouth it was 7pm. Steve Bielby, 37, the chief diver, said: "It was very rough. She was sat there in the dark trying to stop herself rolling about in about two or three feet of air."

The rescuers wanted Miss Bell to take a big breath, dive down and let them guide her to the surface, but she was frightened of getting caught up. Instead, she was given a quick lesson in how to use an oxygen tank and seconds later bobbed to the surface.

"The first thing she said was, 'I'm so sorry I've been such a wimp'," Mr Mence said. "For some reason she seemed to think she had been a coward when nothing could be further from the truth."

Miss Bell was at home in Salisbury last night after treatment for hypothermia.

Tower may regain its moat after 150 years

By John Young

THE moat that surrounds the Tower of London may be refilled with water 150 years after it was emptied as a health hazard on the orders of the Duke of Wellington, then commander-in-chief of the armed forces in Sir Robert Peel's Cabinet.

The project is being examined by senior officials of the Historic Royal Palaces Agency, which took over the management of the tower four years ago. Although no decision has yet been reached, there are hopes that it could be completed in time for the millennium to provide the magnificent spectacle of a floodlit tower reflected on all sides.

Construction of the tower was begun by William I, and subsequent buildings were added up to Victorian times. The first defensive ditch was dug on the north and west sides towards the end of the 12th Century, but the construction of the outer curtain wall and towers and the excavation of the present moat was ordered by Edward I, the great castle-builder, and completed in 1281 at a cost of more than £4,000.

In medieval times the moat was used as a receptacle for every kind of rubbish. In an effort to reduce outbreaks of plague and other infections, Edward III introduced the death penalty for anyone found bathing in it.

During the tower's grim history as a prison and a place of torture and execution — the most recent prisoners were Sir Roger Casement, the Irish nationalist leader hanged for treason in 1916, and Rudolf Hess, Hitler's deputy, in 1941 — the moat provided an added obstacle to potential escapers.

It also served to guard the royal armouries, the mint, the Royal Observatory, the Public Record Office, the Crown jewels and a flourishing menagerie of wild animals. At one time, this comprised 59 species but they were removed to the zoological gardens in Regent's Park after members of the garrison were attacked by a lion.

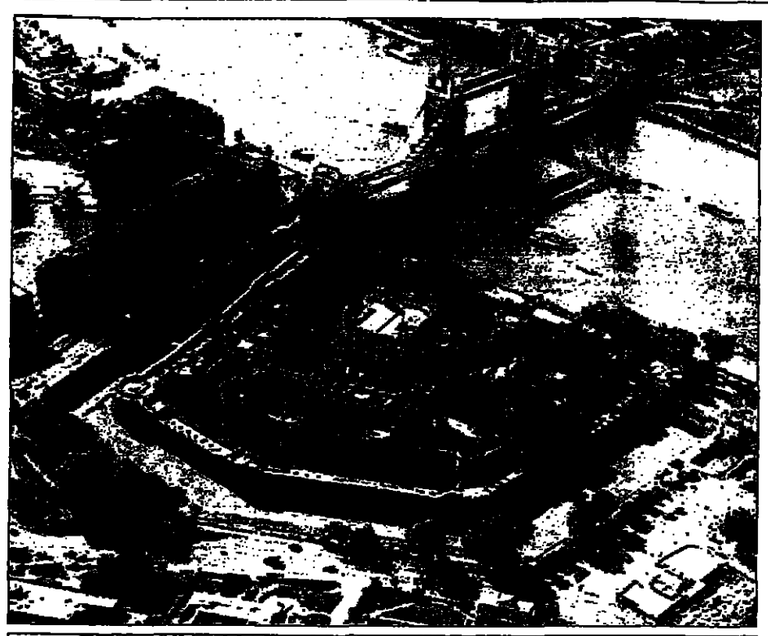
The moat, now grassed over, ranges in width from 30 yards or more on the north and east sides to only a few feet beside Traitor's Gate on the riverside, but still completely surrounds the outer walls. There are a couple of tennis courts at the northeast corner, and the moat is used for occasional displays, but tower officials concede that in its present state it fulfils no real function.

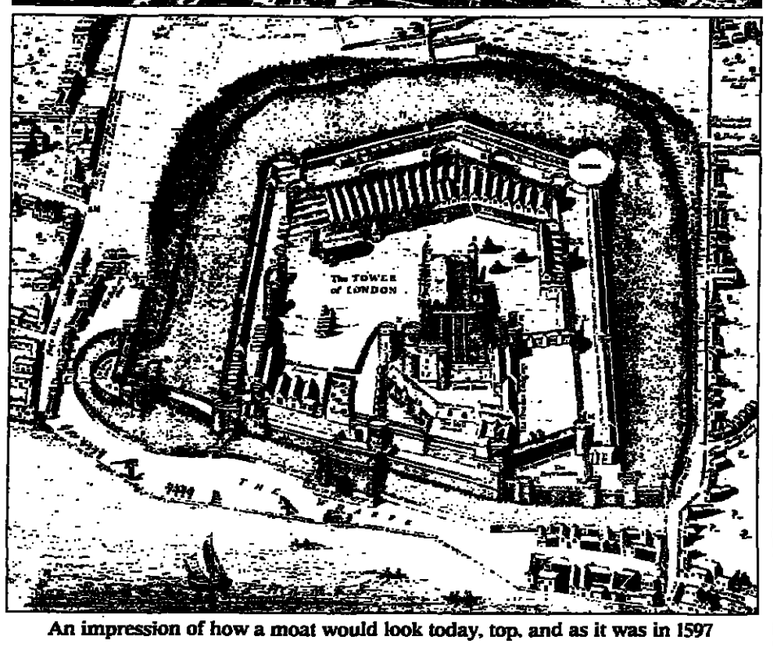
A leading civil engineer said last week that refilling the moat should present no great problems. Brian Rofe, chairman of the water board of the Institute of Civil Engineers, said that some excavation might be needed, but the fact that Thames tides were higher than in the Middle Ages as a result of the progressive downward tilting of southeast England, would make it easy to keep the water level topped up.

"I would think that there is almost certainly a layer of gravel beneath the soil," he said. "It should not be difficult to encase the whole moat in some kind of synthetic membrane to seal it against leakage, and then cover it with a clay and rock fill."

If water were introduced from the river, a lock gate would be needed. The river water would be fairly salty but of acceptable quality, and flora such as salt-resistant water lilies could be introduced as ornamentation. An alternative might be to supply the moat from a small, unobtrusive borehole.

"There might be a bit of a problem with siltation, but nothing insuperable," Mr Rofe said.





An impression of how a moat would look today, top, and as it was in 1597

Fugitive father given visa extension

From Christopher Walker in Cairo

GOVERNMENT efforts to persuade Egypt to co-operate in securing the return of Peter Malkin, who abducted his 12-year-old son from the boy's mother in France, have run into trouble.

Mr Malkin, 54, said yesterday that the Egyptian authorities had granted eight-month visa extensions to him, his companion Audrey Donnelly, 45, like Mr Malkin from Kent, and his son Oliver.

"The Egyptian officials have extended our visas by eight months each so there will be no problem for us staying on here," Mr Malkin said by telephone from the luxury beach hotel in the Red Sea resort of Hurghada, where he surfaced last week after a month on the run.

Mr Malkin said the visa extensions had been secured through the normal channels. The three Britons had been granted three-month tourist visas when they arrived at Cairo airport three weeks ago from Prague.

Although there is no extradition treaty between Egypt and Britain, there had been speculation that under pressure from the British embassy the Egyptian government might have refused to extend Mr Malkin's visa after it expired, forcing him to seek refuge elsewhere.

"Our plans now are to stay on here. They can take my possessions in England, but they cannot persuade me to hand over my son," Mr Malkin said.

Because of the seizure of Mr Malkin's assets by the Official Solicitor, who is Oliver's legal guardian, the millionaire club owner and property developer said he was being forced this week to leave the Arabia Beach Hotel, which is costing him £100 a day. "We are moving to somewhere cheaper because my money will not pay these prices," Mr Malkin said. Hurghada has a number of budget hotels.

In Cairo, staff at the British International School, whose patron is the British ambassador, Christopher Long, said yesterday they had been instructed not to supply Mr Malkin with books to allow his son Oliver to resume his education.

Rape victim pleads for arrest

By A Staff Reporter

THE young victim of a serial transvestite rapist yesterday appealed to anyone who knows him to call the police before he rapes again or kills.

The slightly built 19-year-old said: "This ordeal will never be over for me until he is caught. If something goes wrong the next time, if his next victim says something out of line or tries to fight him off, they will probably get killed.

"There must be someone out there who knows him. He seemed the sort of man who would lead a completely normal life most of the time, intelligent in a scary way, very calculating. He was slightly scruffy but not ugly. He raped a 72-year-old woman, a middle-aged woman and me. Anyone who can do that is not worth knowing and loyalty shouldn't come into it."

The man, aged 45-55, with piercing watery-blue eyes, wears women's underwear, stockings and suspenders beneath his trousers. In 1987 he raped a 44-year-old woman waiting at a bus stop in Streatham, south London. He raped the elderly woman in Clapham in 1991.

The young woman decided to tell her story in the hope that it would trigger someone's conscience. She was on her way home from work at a restaurant in Wimbledon, southwest London, at about midnight on April 3 last year. She was in a public phone box when she saw a man approach. He opened the door, put a knife to her throat and told her he was going to rape her.

The man took her to a multi-storey car park, where he raped her. Her 90-minute ordeal ended when he heard a noise and began to panic.

The incident room number is 081-667 1212.

Hendrix father welcomes police enquiry

By Dominic Kennedy

THE father of Jimi Hendrix last night welcomed the new police investigation into the guitarist's death.

Al Hendrix has always believed that his son died accidentally. A coroner recorded an open verdict on the musician's death in London in 1970.

"I would say I was curious about going back to see if there is anything different than what they thought at the time," said Mr Hendrix from his Seattle home. "If they find there's more to it than I have heard, I'll go along with that." Although "they were talking about suicide and all kinds of things" at the time of Jimi's death, "the only way I looked at it was some kind of accident", he said. Sir Nicholas Lyell, the Attorney-General, is considering whether to quash the coroner's verdict and order a new inquest.

Scotland Yard will investigate the conflicting versions of Hendrix's final hours by two of his girl friends. Key potential witnesses include musicians of the sixties, including some now living abroad.

Hendrix, 27, was pronounced dead on September 18, 1970, in a west London hospital.

A pathologist told the inquest that the guitarist died after inhaling vomit due to barbiturate poisoning. He had taken an overdose of sleeping pills belonging to his girl friend Monika Danneman at her flat in Notting Hill, west London. There was no indication that he was suicidal.

Another former girl friend of Hendrix, Kathy Etchingham, is believed to have requested the new inquest.

She has carried out a private investigation which suggests there might have been a delay in calling for help. She believes musician friends of Hendrix were telephoned before the ambulance was called.

Last night Miss Danneman claimed that while telephoning Alvenia Bridges, a friend of Hendrix, to ask for the name of his doctor, she briefly spoke to the singer Eric Burdon, who was at Miss Bridges's home. After they were unable to trace the doctor's name, Miss Danneman immediately called an ambulance.

Pregnant mother missing

POLICE were searching yesterday for a pregnant mother who went missing hours before her son's seventh birthday party.

Jacqueline Davies, a divorcee aged 29, failed to collect her two children from school on Friday afternoon. Police with dogs and a helicopter equipped with a thermal-image seeker have been searching downland and woods near her home in Brighton.

Officers have also carried out house-to-house enquiries and spoken to the woman's friends and relatives. The journey from her home to the school takes five minutes. Her alsatian dog is also missing.

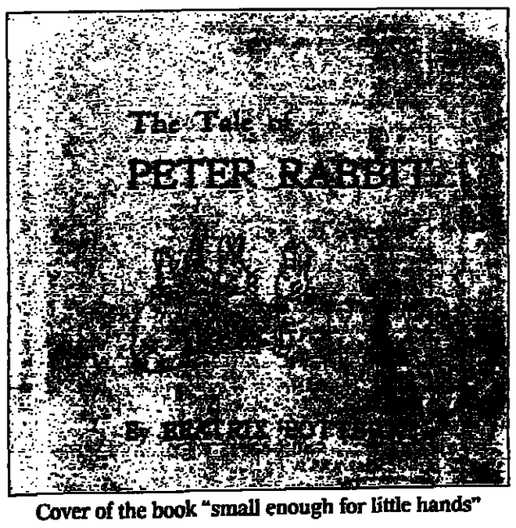
Ms Davies, who has facial scars from surgery she had as a child, was last seen by her boy friend, Maurice Chapman. She is four and a half months pregnant.

Police said: "We are very concerned about her whereabouts, particularly as she missed her son's birthday."

Her adoptive mother, Jeanne Sharp, 56, said last night: "As time goes by you think the worst. She idolised her children and would not have missed her son's birthday party for the world.

"She has never, ever gone missing before and she had been as happy as a sandboy, particularly as she was pregnant."

Mrs Sharp and her husband Alan, of Brighton, were last night caring for their daughter's children, Ryan, 7, and Tony, 9.



Cover of the book "small enough for little hands"

Potter's rare ½d Peter pops up for £3,000

By John Shaw

A RARE edition of *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*, one of the classic books of childhood which originally sold for ½d, is expected to fetch £3,000 on Wednesday.

The volume has been sent to Christie's, South Kensington, south London, from an anonymous owner in Australia. Inscribed by Beatrix Potter (1866-1943), it is one of only 200 printed privately in February 1902.

The sale coincides with an exhibition of the original drawings and water colours at the Victoria and Albert Museum in South Kensington. But Miss Potter was initially turned away by at least six publishers. As a last resort, she turned to printing privately 250 copies in December 1901.

The second impression, of which the copy for sale is an example, appeared two months later, the printers following her express wishes for a book "small enough for little hands to hold". Since then, it has appeared in 25 languages, and been reprinted more than 250 times.

Miss Potter forsook her royalty on the one shilling book to keep the price low to parents of young readers. The cost now: £4.50.

Loch whale refuses to leave

By Michael Hornsby

A MINKE whale has taken up residence in a loch on the east coast of Lewis, in the Outer Hebrides, and is resisting all attempts to persuade it to return to the open sea.

The 20ft whale entered Loch Grimshader, a narrow inlet some five miles south of Stornoway, in pursuit of a shoal of fish about a month ago and has stayed there.

An attempt last week by a flotilla of boats to shepherd the whale out of the loch was unsuccessful. Animal welfare officials are worried that the animal might end up stranded on a beach and die.

Calum Watt, the local representative of the Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, said the owners of salmon farming cages moored in the loch had agreed to pull up their nets today to see if that would help the whale to escape.

"It is pretty much a shot in the dark. We have no idea if the nets are seen as an obstacle by the whale, but we have tried everything else. There are two high tides a day so the whale could swim out if it wanted to. The entrance to the loch is very narrow, which may be a deterrent," Mr Watt said.

The whale has become something of a local celebrity, surfacing every few minutes between the salmon cages. Whales do not eat salmon and the intruder is thought to be feeding on shoals of small fish.

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Stores jump gun on Sunday law in Christmas run-up

BY IAN MURRAY AND LUCY BERRINGTON

BIG centres throughout the country were doing a roaring pre-Christmas trade yesterday, the first Sunday since MPs voted to allow all stores to open for six hours on the traditional day of rest.

The law is unlikely to come through for six months, but many store owners were anxious to make the most of the lucrative run-up to Christmas.

About 95 per cent of shops in centres such as London's Oxford Street, Birmingham, Bristol and Leeds were open. In Solihull, where shops have been vigorously prosecuted for Sunday opening by the local authority, notices warning customers they were breaking the law had been removed because the council decided legal action was pointless.

Some people were shopping even though they disapproved of the idea. "I've got mixed feelings for the future and I hope that Sunday shopping won't become the norm," said Les Green, 51, who had travelled to London from Ormskirk in Lancashire to shop. "It's a family day and should be treated as such." Vicky Thorne, manageress of The Perfume Shop in the new Bristol Galleries centre, said: "This is the first time we have opened on Sunday, but I don't agree with it. Sundays are the only chance I get to be with my family and I'd like to be able to do all the leisurely things, like take the children out. But in the first two hours we took £1,000, which is excellent."

Edwin Wainwright, a Leeds pensioner, was angry: "I've been to church this morning and the congregation was down on the normal. I blame the Sunday trading."

Major chains which did not take advantage of Sunday opening yesterday included John Lewis and Marks & Spencer. W. H. Smith is opening only about 70 per cent of its stores. "After Christmas more than 90 per cent of our stores will stay shut on Sundays," Kevin Hawkins, corporate affairs director, said.

At Lewisham Centre in southeast London, most branch managers voted to open for the four Sundays before Christmas. Yesterday their verdicts ranged from "slow — we haven't advertised enough" to "busy as a normal weekday".

"Today has been the most successful Sunday since we started Sunday opening last year," Paula Welfare, of Ravel, said. She reported Christmas takings so far as 20 per cent up on last year, but said Sunday custom did not usually justify the cost of opening.

Camera allows court to cross legal divide

BY FRANCES GIBB
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

BARRISTERS in England will today take live video evidence from witnesses in Scotland because the English judge is constitutionally barred from taking his court north of the border.

A court is being set up in a room at Gray's Inn with video-link facilities allowing 25 Scottish witnesses to testify in a claim by two Scottish farmers suing the English-based chemical firm Rechem. Andrew and Irene Graham are claiming damages over the alleged effects of fumes from a Rechem waste incinerator that operated near Bonnybridge in the mid-Eighties. They claim that toxic particles were carried by air over their land, poisoning cattle. As a result, they claim, animals died after calfing and milk yield was affected. Rechem is defending the claim.

Their solicitor Richard Keen said he had wanted to avoid the inconvenience and cost of the witnesses going to London, and the Lord Chancellor would not agree to the judge sitting in Scotland, a "foreign" jurisdiction despite the Act of Union.

MARC ASPLAND



Stuart McFarland, of the sub-aqua team of the 1st Battalion Parachute Regiment, surfaces with a clutch of golf balls yesterday. Members of the team had been dropped by helicopter into the lake on the third hole of the Mill Ride Golf Club at Ascot, Berkshire, to which over 10,000 balls are believed to have been consigned. Other lakes on the course were also searched in the fund-raising exercise for the NSPCC and Airborne Forces Security Fund

Military deserts historic posts in face of defence cuts

BY RACHEL KELLY
PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

THE greatest sale of historic military buildings from the Crimean War to the missile age is under way because of defence cutbacks.

Estate agents report that an unprecedented number of military properties are on the market. Last year the Ministry of Defence sold property worth £68 million. This year the total is likely to be much higher, with many spectacular buildings from the 18th and 19th century coming up for sale.

Fresh on the market is one of Suffolk's finest country mansions, said to be where Sir Robert Watson-Watt discovered radar. Bawdsey Manor Estate, which has a panelled drawing room and great hall with an organ gallery above, is for sale for about £1.5 million through Savills.

A recent survey by *Chartered Surveyor Weekly* estimated that the MoD owns about 1 per cent of the land in the country, about 600,000 acres. The plan is to raise about £500 million.

The property for sale ranges from the old officers' mess at the Royal Woolwich Arsenal to former military hospitals, garrison churches and aircraft hangars. About 2,000 married quarters, many of them in the south of England, are going for an average of £30,000.

For those looking for a bargain home, the problem with much of the MoD's estate is that buildings are often far from shops and pubs, and alongside buildings and land that are still in MoD hands.

Conservationists are concerned about the future of such sites which embody so much history. SAVE Britain's Heritage earlier this year launched an exhibition, Deserted Bastions, which catalogued the history of neglect and destruction of many former defence buildings, such as the 1850s Beaumont Barracks, demolished in 1963.

Scott turns attention to Clark and questions of actualité

BY MICHAEL DYNES, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

ALAN Clark, the former trade and defence minister renowned for his forthright advocacy of arms sales abroad, today begins a three-day cross-examination over his role in the arms-to-Iraq affair.

Mr Clark, who made no secret of his view that the 1985 Howe arms export guidelines were "tiresome and intrusive", will be asked by Lord Justice Scott to explain the inconsistencies between the written statement he gave to Customs officials and the evidence he later gave at the Old Bailey.

During a meeting in January 1988 with Paul Henderson, the managing director of Matrix Churchill, the Iraq-owned machine tool manufacturer, and other representatives of the Machine Tools Technologies Association (MTTA), Mr Clark advised machine tool makers to emphasise the "general engineering" uses of their equipment when applying for government export licences.

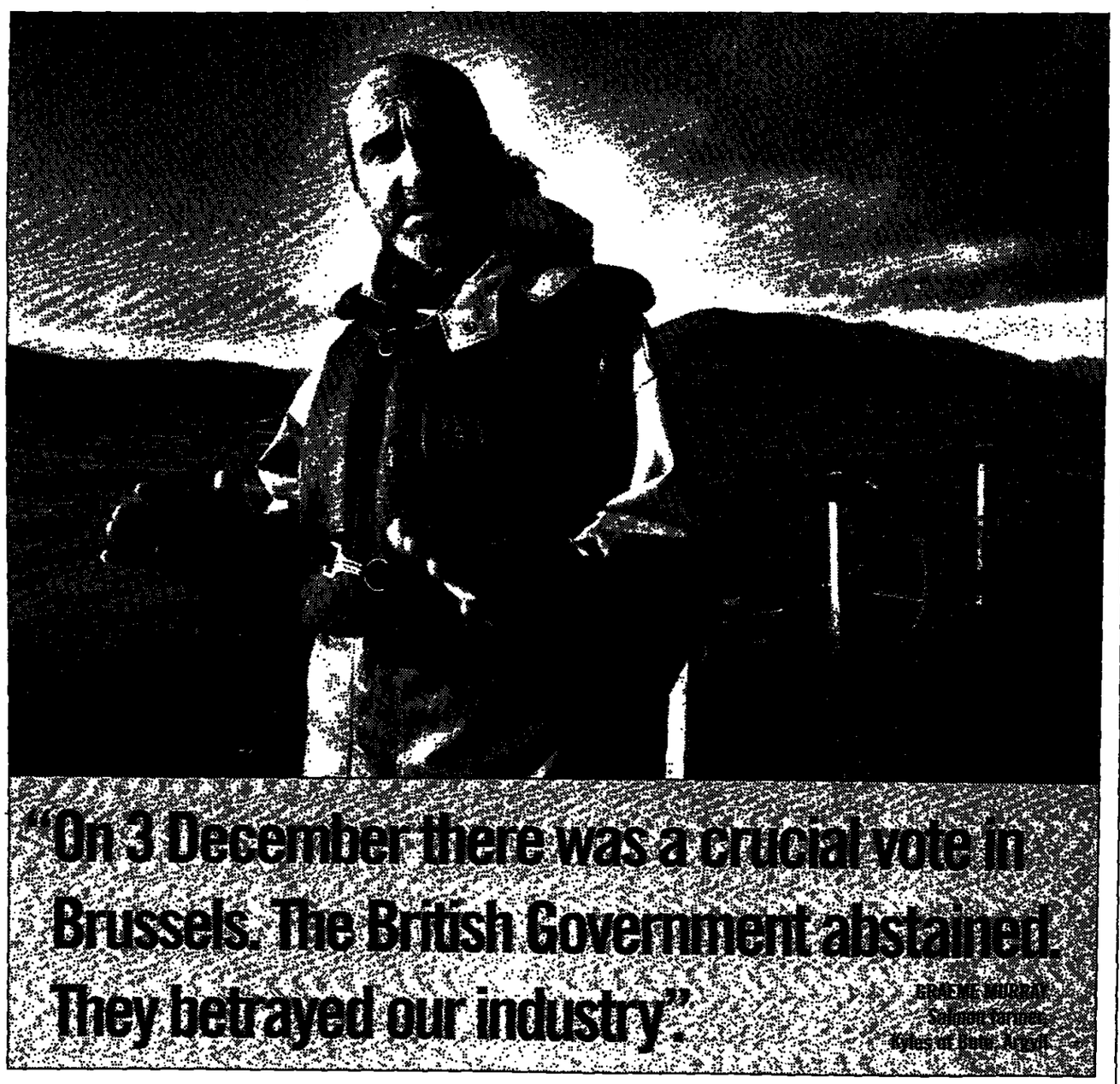
In July 1991 Mr Clark insisted to Customs officials preparing the case against Matrix Churchill for alleged breaches of the 1987-89 export of goods (control) order, that "the advice I gave the MTTA was based upon the assumption that the exports were intended for civil purposes".

Mr Clark's statement, along with evidence from Lord Trefgarne, the former trade and industry minister, and other trade and industry officials, was seen as the engine that drove the Customs prosecution against Matrix Churchill.

At the Old Bailey in October 1992, however, Mr Clark changed tack again. Under cross-examination by Geoffrey Robinson QC, counsel for the defence, Mr Clark conceded that he knew that the machine tools were destined for Nassr and Huteen, the two Iraqi armaments complexes.

Mr Robinson suggested that Mr Clark consequently knew to be false the official minute of the 1988 meeting, recording that the "Iraqis will be using the current order for general engineering purposes". Mr Clark replied: "Well, it's our old friend being economical, isn't it?" "With the truth?" Mr Robinson asked. "With the *actualité*", Mr Clark replied.

Because of the disclosure of some 500 pages of secret documents proving that the Government knew of and encouraged the machine tool trade, the trial of the three Matrix Churchill defendants effectively collapsed. Mr Clark's testimony convinced the prosecution that there was no point going on any further.



"On 3 December there was a crucial vote in Brussels. The British Government abstained. They betrayed our industry".

JOHN MURRAY
Salmon farmer,
Isles of Bute, Argyll

HERE'S HOW

Dumping: For the third time in 5 years the Norwegians are flooding the market. In 1990 they were found guilty of dumping in Europe and they were thrown out of the USA for the same offence. Now they are doing it again.

Subsidies: The Norwegian salmon industry only survives today because it was saved from bankruptcy by a whopping £150m subsidy from the Norwegian Government.

Now: The European Commission are setting a Reference Price for salmon. But under pressure from the Norwegians – who want to go on dumping their massive excess production – the Commission proposed a price which is well below the cost of production in both Norway and Scotland.

AND WHAT DID THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT DO?

They had proposed a higher price, but didn't stick out for it. When the vote came on a much lower price – what happened? The Irish stood up for their industry and voted against the low price. The British didn't stand up for theirs – they abstained.

AND WHY WERE THEY SO WEAK?

A number of reasons

- The Foreign Office insist we pander to the Norwegians so they vote to enter the EU
- There aren't any Conservative MPs with salmon farms in their constituencies
- The Scottish Office would like to react more strongly but they are told what to do by London.

DON'T THE 6000 PEOPLE IN SCOTLAND, WHO WILL LOSE THEIR JOBS, DESERVE BETTER THAN THIS?

Yes they do – they demand • A free and fair market.
• A Reference Price that really works against Norwegian dumping.

"My business is being killed by Norwegian dumping" says Graeme Murray. "Our Government is always talking about fair trade. It's time they did something about it. They didn't even vote for it in Brussels. That's what I call betrayal."

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PREMIUM 100 Annual Interest. Rates guaranteed not to change until 1st February 1994.			
£100,000+	7.60	5.70	-
£50,000+	7.40	5.55	-
£25,000+	6.80	5.10	-
£10,000+	6.40	4.80	-
FROM 13TH DECEMBER 1993			
PREMIUM 60 INCOME Monthly Interest			
£100,000+	6.31	4.73	6.50
£50,000+	6.13	4.60	6.30
£25,000+	5.46	4.10	5.60
£10,000+	5.08	3.81	5.20
£5,000+	4.60	3.45	4.70
£2,500+	3.98	2.98	4.06
PREMIUM ACCESS Annual Interest †			
£10,000+	5.00	3.75	-
£5,000+	4.50	3.38	-
£2,500+	3.75	2.81	-
£500+	3.35	2.44	-
£1+	1.00	0.75	-

CLOSED ISSUES

	GROSS RATE %	NET RATE %	GROSS % C.A.R.*
PREMIUM 60 Annual Interest			
£10,000+	5.00	3.75	-
£5,000+	4.50	3.38	-
£2,500+	3.75	2.81	-
£500+	3.25	2.44	-
£1+	1.00	0.75	-
SUPERSHARE PLUS Annual Interest			
£30,000+	3.45	2.59	-
£10,000+	3.20	2.40	-
£5,000+	3.05	2.29	-
£500+	2.65	1.99	-
£1+ Monthly Interest	1.00	0.75	-
£30,000+	3.40	2.55	3.45
£10,000+	3.15	2.36	3.20
£5,000+	3.01	2.26	3.05
£2,500+	2.62	1.97	2.65
PREMIUM INCOME Monthly Interest			
£25,000+	4.75	3.56	-
£10,000+	4.25	3.19	-
£5,000+	3.75	2.81	-

	GROSS RATE %	NET RATE %
CAPITAL PLUS SPECIAL ISSUE Annual Interest		
£25,000+	4.17	3.13
£10,000+	3.68	2.72
CAPITAL PLUS MONTHLY Monthly Interest	2.70	2.03
CAPITAL PLUS Annual Interest	2.70	2.03
CHAMPION BOND (2nd ISSUE) Half Yearly/Monthly Interest	1.17	0.88
CHAMPION BOND (3rd ISSUE) Annual Interest	2.57	1.93
FLEXIBLE FUND Half Yearly Interest		
£25,000+	1.37	1.03
£1+	1.08	0.75
THRIFTY SAVERS Annual Interest	1.08	0.75
ORDINARY SHARE Half Yearly Interest	1.08	0.75

The gross rate of interest on all other closed issue accounts will be reduced by 0.3% gross per annum, except for accounts where the resulting rate would be less than 1% gross. In these cases the rate will be reduced to 1% gross per annum.

FROM 17TH JANUARY 1994

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The basic rate of interest charged on existing mortgages for owner occupiers will be 7.75% from 17th January 1994, or at a later date subject to the terms of the mortgage deed.

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هكذا في الأصل

Continental recession puts brakes on UK car makers

By Kevin Eason
Motoring Correspondent

■ Nissan becomes Britain's biggest car exporter as Ford and Vauxhall give their workers extra days off over the holiday

SALES abroad by three of Britain's major car manufacturers, Ford, Vauxhall and Peugeot, have slumped dramatically because of the recession on the Continent. Meanwhile Nissan has emerged as the country's top car exporter.

British manufacturers are telling thousands of workers to take extra time off this Christmas because of the difficult market conditions.

The dramatic effect of the recession abroad on Britain's car industry is driven home by confidential figures issued to makers at the weekend.

According to the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, the industry is expected to lose £900 million of production this year because of the near 16 per cent drop in European sales, which has led to a fall of 2.7 per cent in export production.

The balance of power between the domestic producers and the Japanese "transplant" factories has also shifted significantly.

Nissan is now Britain's biggest car exporter, from its £850 million plant at Washington, Tyne and Wear. The company has sent more than 166,000 cars with a showroom value of about £1.5 billion for sale overseas in the first ten months of the year.

The Japanese company has overtaken Rover, which has exported 133,700 cars so far this year and will be close to last year's overseas sales total of 159,000 when 1993 ends.

Ford, Vauxhall and Peugeot have been hit by their sister factories on the Continent taking back responsibility for output supplied from the UK last year. The move has resulted in a substantial drop in sales abroad from UK plants and the need for further production cuts next year.

Ford exported 92,000 cars from its main plants at Halewood, Merseyside, and Dagenham, Essex, last year. It is understood that this figure slumped to 9,300 cars between January and October. Nearly 9,000 Dagenham workers have been given an extra six days off at Christmas as the company battles to trim production to match sales demand. Workers at the Southampton plant, which makes Transit vans, get three extra days off.

Vauxhall has also suffered badly. Its overseas sales are understood to have fallen from more than 105,000 cars last year to fewer than 31,000. As a result, 3,500 workers at the Luton, Bedfordshire, plant, which makes the Cavalier model, sold as the Vectra abroad, will take an extra week off in the new year.

Both companies, which head the UK sales charts, have told workers that production will have to be cut next year unless there is a substantial improvement in overseas sales soon.

Peugeot said production this year could be about 80,000 cars, 6,000 fewer than last year, but that the proportion of exports had fallen from more than 70 per cent of output to about 40 per cent.

Even Nissan, despite its big export sales, is not immune to the cutbacks. The first of about 600 workers to take advantage of the company's redundancy scheme left the Washington factory on Friday. With production falling from the target of 270,000 cars this year to about 250,000, the company offered half a year's pay — about £6,000 — to any workers who wanted to leave.

Rover remains buoyant, with exports improving against the trend, and output is up about 5 per cent this year.

Toyota is on target for its first year in production at Burnaston, Derbyshire, with about 37,000 cars being produced. Nearly 600 workers will staff a new night shift from March and production is projected to rise to more than 80,000 cars next year.

A spokeswoman said: "We are just building up our production and we hope that the Continent will be coming back by the time we get into our stride."

Man crawls from ruins after blast wrecks home



A man was recovering in hospital yesterday after his house was destroyed in an explosion thought to have been caused by a gas leak. Michael Beattie, 43, a married man who works at Devonport Dockyard, was at the time watching television alone at his home in Alexandra Terrace, Plymouth. He crawled from the ruins of the house with burns to his face and hands. Ten people were taken to hospital suffering from shock after the blast, heard miles away, on Saturday evening. The fire service said it was a miracle that nobody was killed or badly hurt in the explosion, which shattered windows up and down the street. Four badly damaged homes are to be demolished.

Prisoners regularly shopped at off-licence

By Richard Ford
Home Correspondent

PRISONERS made regular outings to an off-licence from a jail where it was rare to see staff patrolling the grounds, according to a report published today.

Members of the board of visitors at the jail suspected that staff condoned the use of cannabis because they gave little priority to preventing or detecting the use of drugs.

The report by Judge Stephen Tumim, the Chief Inspector of Prisons, says that while staff at Ford prison near Arundel, West Sussex, had some success in catching inmates "returning from shopping trips", particularly to an off-licence in Littlehampton, it was assumed that others made the run there and back to the store.

Inmates at the open prison told Judge Tumim during his inspection in June that most staff wanted to avoid hassle.

Judge Tumim is critical of the apparent use of Ford as a dumping ground for staff who were not up to the job. He makes an unfavourable comparison between the staff and prisoners, saying that many inmates are highly intelligent men with wide experience of life, not all outside the law. "It is difficult in these circumstances for inmates to give staff the respect they feel they deserve," Judge Tumim says.

☐ *H.M. Prison Ford*, report by H.M. Chief Inspector of Prisons (Home Office, London, £1.50)

Pensioner on egg diet was bound to survive

By Nigel Hawkes
Science Editor

A MAN who lived on eggs has provided a clue to explain why some people's arteries clog up, while others don't.

Doctors were disbelieving when reports appeared of an 88-year-old American who had been eating two dozen boiled eggs a day for 30 years.

Conventional wisdom suggested that a diet so rich in cholesterol ought to have left the man prey to clogged arteries and heart disease. But the man, living in a retirement home near Denver, was physically fit and had remarkably low blood cholesterol levels.

Dr Fred Kern, of the University of Colorado, who reported the case, attributed the man's survival to very efficient cholesterol metabolism. Further research by Dr Richard Weinberg, of Wake Forest University in North Carolina, showed that the man possessed a mutant gene that allowed him to eat high-cholesterol food with no corresponding rise in the carrier molecule, low-density lipoprotein, that deposits cholesterol on the artery walls.

Dr Weinberg has now found the same gene in 11 out of 23 medical students he has studied. If those results are confirmed, people who have this gene — about 15 per cent of the population, according to surveys in the US — could be protected against clogged arteries caused by eating too much cholesterol.

Spa burghers turn up noses at chilli

By Andrew Pierce



Phillips: faced ban on sauces

CHELTENHAM Spa, a besieged enclave of genteel English tradition, is pulling up the drawbridge in an attempt to keep out the forces of change.

The Liberal Democrat local authority, which last week banned the sale of chilli and relishes and other aromatic sauces at baked potato stalls which operate on its streets, has also banned a fruit and vegetable stall in the town's Regency High Street from selling vegetables. The sale of dirty potatoes was considered out of keeping with the town's image.

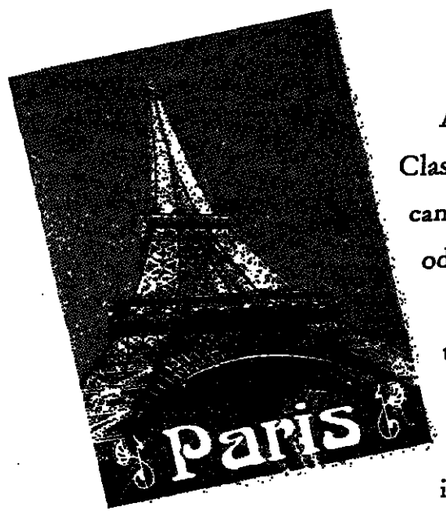
Last week the town's licensing committee, which banned the sauce and relish, also gave nightclub hypnotists their marching orders. Alan Stone, the Liberal Democrat chairman of the committee, said: "I don't think hypnotists create the right impression for a town like Cheltenham. Some people think they are down-market."

The committee has also refused permission for two of the most popular local charities, the Sue Ryder Foundation and the Cobalt Unit, a pioneering cancer treatment centre, to mount their Christmas appeals. Sir Charles Irving, the town's former Tory MP, said: "It's a disgrace. It is the act of Scrooge. They are putting the town into a time capsule. They have got to stop living in the past."

Such is the level of concern over the moratorium that a Businessmen's Action Group has been formed to press for a change. Bill Bullingham said: "The town is stuck in a time warp. It is like they have built a big wall around the town, slammed shut the door, and thrown away the key."

David Phillips, 28, the proscribed baked-potato seller, has lost so much income he works only one day a week instead of two in the town's High Street. He said: "I should be grateful for small mercies. Initially they told me I could sell them with nothing at all. They have relented now. I can sell them with butter."

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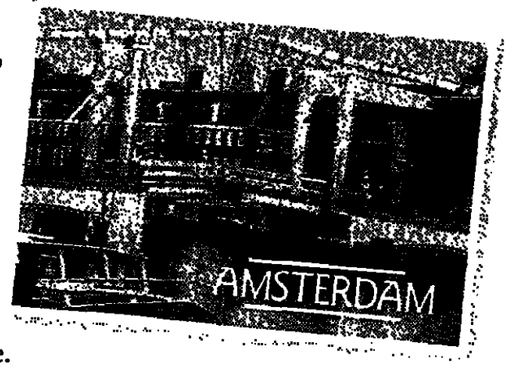
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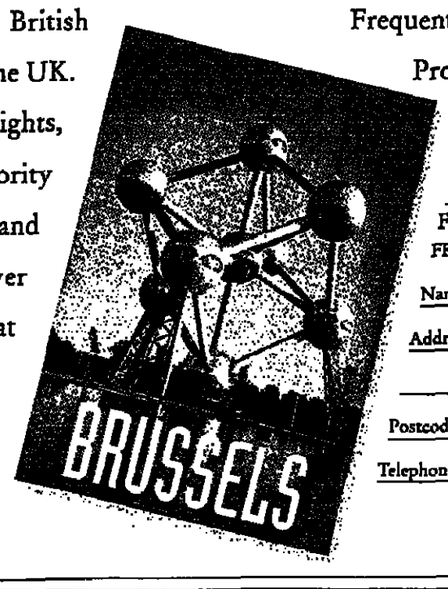
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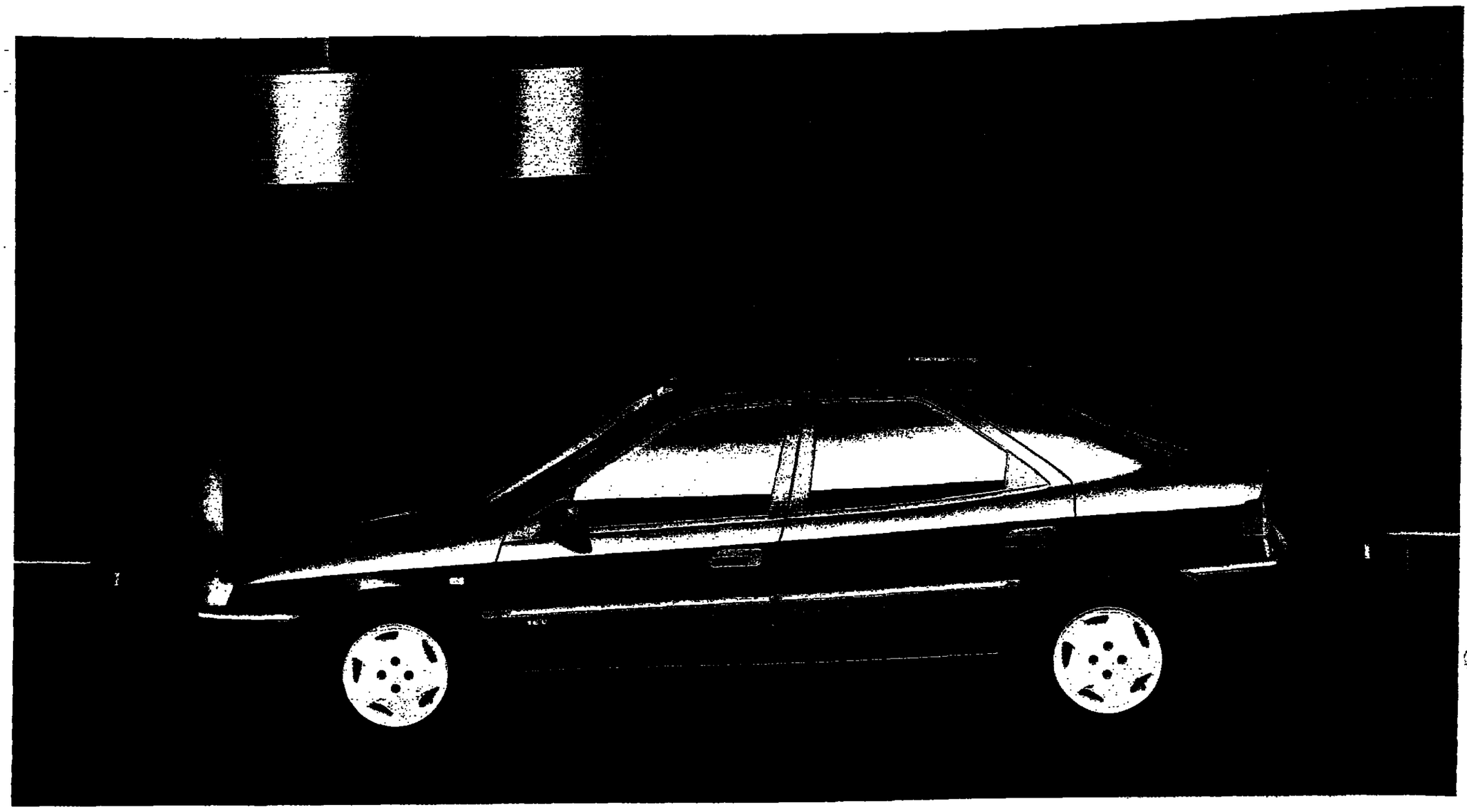
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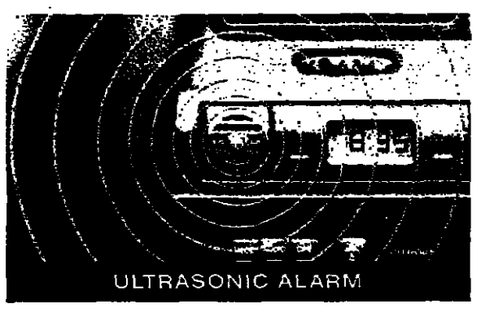
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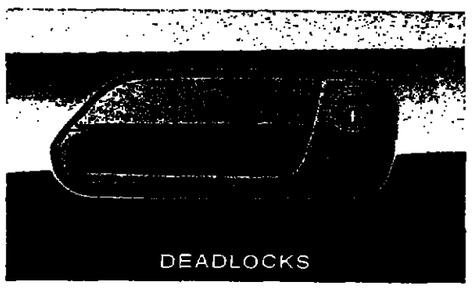
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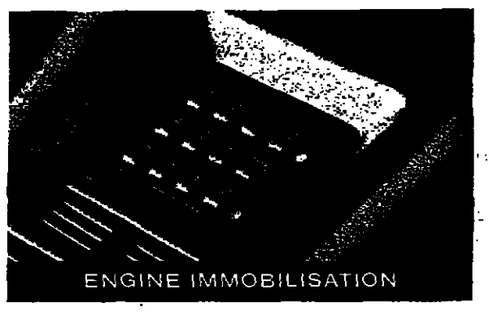
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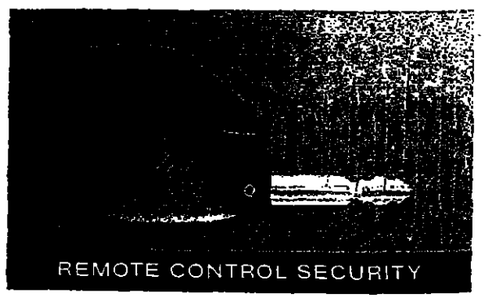
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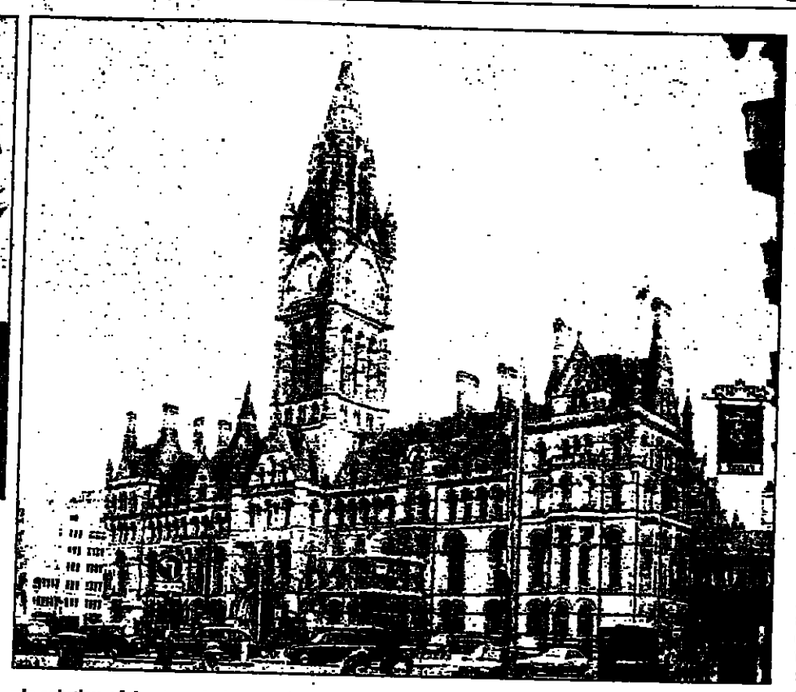
Local government is to be overhauled less than 20 years after radical reorganisation

Town hall reforms are unwanted

*The Government's plans to reorganise local government once again are misconceived, **Sir John Boynton** believes*



Environment Secretary Anthony Crosland, above, blew the whistle on town hall overspending in his famous "the party is over" speech in Manchester. Harsh restraints followed



In my 40 years in local government, no period was so stressful or so active as the years preceding and immediately after the great reforms of 1974. I say "great" because nowhere else in Europe or the US had the old local government structures been so radically changed. In Wales and England outside London, 1,391 local authorities were, on April 1, 1974, reduced to 377.

It is hard to believe that so radical a reform needs wholesale revision less than 20 years after it was introduced. Fine tuning and adjustment, yes, but rebuilding? Surely not.

Incredulity is heightened by the fact that the process of reorganisation is to be carried through amid severe restraint on public expenditure. There is no dispute that there will be substantial one-off costs for premises, changed working and operating procedures and redeployment and severance payments for staff.

The Local Government Commission, which is in charge of the proposals for England, estimated these costs to be £100 million for the six

The Times Essay

areas so far surveyed — and there are many more to come. A leaked estimate by the Department of the Environment of around £1 billion for transitional costs for the whole seems eminently supportable.

The Government, of course, will reply that the expected annual savings following reorganisation will more than pay the heavy bill for setting up the new system.

In 1974, we all expected that the massive reduction in the number of local authorities would reduce overheads. The saving on salaries of clerks, town clerks and chief officers alone were estimated at £9 million annually. Yet somehow the new authorities managed to create 10,000 new posts.

This could not continue. The referee simply had to blow the whistle and the Environment Secretary, Anthony Crosland, in a famous speech in Manchester, announced "the party is over". Manpower Watch was instituted, as was a regime of even tighter control of local government spending.

The failed expectations of savings in 1974 were not simply due to profligacy. There seems to be a behavioural pattern that for a given area, a small number of large authorities will spend more than a larger number of small authorities.

So why is the Government pressing ahead? Is it because there is a clear and perceived public demand for change? The answer to this, as one might expect, is no. When the Royal Commission on Local Government in 1970 carried out a survey of attitudes to their proposals for reorganisation, 57 per cent said they were in favour of no change. Small wonder that a MORI poll in Durham recently showed 56 per cent in favour of the status quo and, in Derbyshire, 39 per cent.

In searching for reasons to explain the Government's desire for reform, consider two principles to which great weight was given in the Government's guidance to the Local Government Commission.

The first is the need for local authorities to be community based. This is a very odd concept for a Government intent on further substantial reductions in the number of local authorities. The one thing which could truthfully be said about the borough and district councils abolished in 1974 is that they were genuinely local.

The second is the Government's faith in the benefits of a single tier of local government instead of, outside London and the metropolitan counties, two tiers of authority — counties and districts — as at present. Many who live in London, where there has been a single-tier system since 1986, do not share the Government's confidence this will release untold benefits for the consumer.

Some of the matters which deserve attention stem from the 1974 insistence on two tiers everywhere. More flexibility would have allowed the largest cities to have been made unitary authorities working within more up-to-date boundaries. We should not now replace one dogmatic solution with another.

The real thrust for reform has come from the district councils in England and Wales. Their association has been a vociferous proponent of change. Its recipe for the future was simple: abolish the county councils and hand over their functions to the existing district councils.

The abolition of the Greater London Council and the metropolitan county councils had already removed several large players from the field. If reorganisation were to lead to the abolition of other large county councils, the Government would have to deal mainly with small or medium-sized local authorities lacking the expertise and resources available to the existing large county councils. Centralisation and the marginalisation of local government could continue apace, with less chance of opposition. The simple solution of the Association of District Councils has been dealt a mortal blow by the Local Government Commission. It has examined and costed this proposal for each area so far examined and has concluded that, apart from other considerations, it would be more expensive than retaining the existing two-tier system.

The Government is now talking about mergers of authorities by agreement and of using the districts as "building blocks". They have issued proposed new guidance to the commission, which appears to be rather too independently minded for the Government's liking. There is one final factor to which little attention seems to have been given. Quite apart from the financial situation facing the public sector, the proposed reorganisation of areas and structures comes at a time when local government, like it or not, is being pushed forward into radically new methods of working.

Compulsory competitive tendering is being introduced for administrative and professional staff. In some councils, whole departments have been privatised. The role of the education authority is being diminished. For good or ill the whole concept of local government as a public service is being transformed.

All this is disturbing to senior staff, whose experience is needed so crucially to make any new system work. At least 30-40 per cent of senior staff are likely to leave if the reorganisations go through. Something like this happened in 1974 and it will happen again. Taking into account the effects on public expenditure, the loss of senior staff and some degree of demoralisation of both staff and councillors, it is baffling that the Government ever decided to embark upon proposals for wholesale reorganisation at this time.

☐ *Sir John Boynton was the first president of the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives.*

NEWS IN BRIEF

Murder charges

Two women will appear in court at Redbridge, northeast London, today accused of beating to death Farida Patel, 21, who died on Thursday at her home in Ilford in what police believe may have been a religious ritual.

Rabiya Compounder, 24, Mrs Patel's sister who lived with her, and Mouna Rai, 46, of Stratford, east London, are charged with murder.

Siege charge

Edward Mark Williams, 28, charged with kidnapping after an armed siege at Hay-on-Wye, Powys, will appear in court at Brecon today.

Splash down

A 22-year-old man who fell 60ft through a leisure centre roof into a swimming pool at Swindon, Wiltshire, escaped with cuts and bruises.

Bond winners

Winners in the National Savings premium bond weekly draw are: £100,000: 6JS 825710 (winner lives in South Yorkshire, value of holding £10); £50,000: 16SK 996887 (St Helens, £120); £25,000: 12EF 802483 (Berkshire, £355).

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KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Belgrade tournament

Former British champion Julian Hodgson is facing a tough struggle in the powerful Investbanka tournament in Belgrade. In the fifth round he was unlucky to encounter the teenage Russian grandmaster Vladimir Kramnik just as the latter was coming into form.

Hodgson employed a variation which had been successful for White in the game Shirov v Kramnik from the world team championship at Lucerne in October. In that game Kramnik, playing Black, had tried 12 ... e5. On this occasion Kramnik improved with 12 ... Rad8 and went on to score a narrow victory in a rook and pawn endgame.

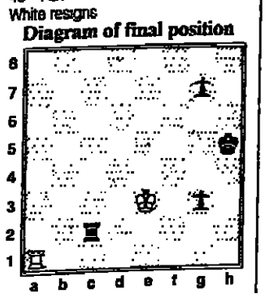
White: Julian Hodgson
Black: Vladimir Kramnik
Investbanka Tournament, Belgrade, December 1993

Sicilian Defence

1	e4	c5
2	Nf3	d6
3	d4	cxd4
4	Nxd4	Nf6
5	Nc3	Nc6
6	Bg5	e6
7	Qd2	Be7
8	0-0-0	0-0
9	f4	Nxd4
10	Qxd4	Qa5
11	Bc4	Bd7
12	Rd3	Rad8
13	Rg3	Kh8
14	e5	dxe5
15	fxe5	Bc6
16	Qe3	Ng8
17	Bd3	Qb6
18	Qxb6	axb6
19	Re1	Bxg5+
20	Rxg5	Rd4
21	Be4	Ne7
22	Rg3	Rfd8
23	b3	Ng6
24	Bxc6	bxc6
25	Rf3	Kg8
26	g3	h5
27	Na4	b5
28	Nb2	Ra8
29	Kb1	Rd2
30	h4	Ne7
31	Ref1	Nd5
32	Rxf7	Nc3+
33	Kc1	Re2
34	a4	bxa4
35	Nxa4	Nxa4
36	bxa4	Rxa4
37	R1f2	Rxe5
38	Rc7	Re3
39	Rxc6	Rxg3
40	Rxe6	Rxh4
41	Re5	Rh1+
42	Kd2	h4
43	Re3	Kh7
44	Ke2	Rc1
45	Rxg3	hxg3
46	Rf1	Rxc2+
47	Ke3	Kg6
48	Ra1	Kh5

White resigns

Diagram of final position



Giving a voice to children silenced by misunderstanding

By Ruth Gledhill



■ This year, *The Times* Christmas and new year appeal aims to help some of the half million children with speech impairment

UNTIL recently Christopher Signore, 6, threw violent tantrums, screamed rather than spoke, and scratched and bit his playmates.

Although he has an above-average IQ, he has problems understanding some concepts and responding to direct questions. His behaviour stemmed from his frustration at his inability to communicate.

His mother Loraine, who had been advised that it was little more than the "terrible twos", was close to despair when he was referred to a special unit for children with language impairment at the Globe primary school in east London.

To watch a transformed Christopher play peaceably, write his name and cut out snowflakes, it is difficult to visualise the disruptive child he once was.

Afasic, the Association for All Speech Impaired Children, believes there are thousands of similar children in the UK who need help. Some are written off at an early age as bad-tempered or unsociable, and go on to uncertain futures as adults, unable to form relationships or hold down jobs. In its Christmas and new year appeal, *The Times* is asking for funds to support Afasic's work throughout the UK, and has donated an initial £1,000.

Afasic runs family support groups, provides information, supports research and lobbies central and local government on behalf of children with speech and language difficulties. The charity, which has an annual income of nearly £400,000, needs funds to buy equipment such as teaching aids and computer software, and to promote awareness of children with speech and language disorders.

At least half a million children in the UK, one in 20, have language disorders that are not due to a physical or intellectual disability. Up to 7,000 have long-term problems that will continue into adulthood. The number is far higher if communication problems due to a physical or intellectual disability are included.

☐ ***Christopher's story:***

Loraine Signore first suspected her son Christopher had a serious problem when he was two-and-a-half. He refused to eat, began screaming when taken out and kicked and bit her. He talked only in a language of his own, pronouncing words backwards or without consonants at the beginning or end. Only his parents and elder brother could understand him. Mrs Signore, whose husband Maurizio is a university site supervisor, said: "He had no friends and became spiteful and confused. It was really sad. It was the comparison between him and his happy elder brother that made us think we should do everything we could. A therapist referred him to the language impairment unit at the Globe primary school, where the 20 children in the unit are partially integrated with the other 300. Mrs Signore said: "I would have been under medication by now if it was not for the unit. Everything in the family revolved around him. The change has been unbelievable. He is completely different. He has a slight speech impairment but reads and is a real chatterbox."

MICHAEL POWELL



Like other children at the Globe unit, Alfie Ward's behaviour has improved as he has slowly developed the ability to speak and understand

☐ ***Alfie's story:***

Alfie Ward, a lively four-year-old, found a spokesman in his brother Louis, 18 months older, when his own speech failed to develop. Their mother Sara assumed that he took after her husband Mark's family, where a relative had learnt to talk at a later age than normal. Friends said he would grow out of it. But when Alfie, an affectionate and ebullient child at home, went to playgroup, he played on his own and refused to paint or draw.

Language difficulties were diagnosed and he began attending the Globe unit in January. As with Christopher, Alfie has slowly developed the ability to speak and understand, and his behaviour has improved correspondingly.

Mrs Ward said: "To be honest, I thought he was backwards. But the speech therapist said to me, 'How would you like to want to say something when you cannot?' "

Leading article, page 15

I would like to help children and young people who have speech and language impairments:

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..... POSTCODE .....

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☐ £100 ☐ £50 ☐ £30 ☐ £15 ☐ other £.....

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Value £..... Cheque number .....

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Expiry date ...../.....

Signature .....

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Apathy keeps turnout low

FROM ANNE MCELVOY IN MOSCOW

Russians voted yesterday in elections which resident Yeltsin hopes ill allow the country to l itself of the legislative ad constitutional remains of the Communist ast and create power structures favourable to ntinued reform and strong presidential rule.

Despite being the first post-Soviet vote on a new parliament and basic law, a lacklustre campaign and widespread public apathy led to a low turnout. Only 32per cent of voters had cast their ballots by 4pm Moscow time, making it uncertain whether Mr Yeltsin would achieve the 50per cent participation he needs to validate the referendum on the constitution. That turnout is achieved, the constitution needs only a simple per cent backing to be passed. This vote was held simultaneously with the elections to a new two-chamber parliament in a complicated ballot procedure which combined a "first past the post" system with proportional representation to cater for party, regional and individual candidate representation.

Early reports from election officials in Chukotka, in the Far East, showed the neo-Fascist Liberal Democratic Party, led by Vladimir Zhirinovsky, emerging as the second largest party. The result could cause difficulties for democrats in parliament if repeated nationwide.

The presidential administration and Russia's Choice, the main pro-reform bloc, have tried hard in the days leading up to the vote to discredit Mr Zhirinovksy. His organisers were caught trying to bribe voters in three Moscow polling stations, the Central Elections Commission said.

On Saturday night state television featured an unscheduled documentary about the extremist leader entitled *The Hawk* and showed his portrait with the caption: "I will follow in Hitler's footsteps." Mr Zhirinovsky blamed the programme on Western secret services.

Mr Yeltsin cast his vote in central Moscow soon after the polling stations opened. He refused to be drawn on his choice of party and for the Federal Assembly, which replaces the Supreme Soviet. "I am sure that a better parliament, more intellectual, intelligent and politically literate, will be elected. But it is clear from the candidates," he said.

Although the President favours Russia's Choice, which features many of his Cabinet Ministers, he was anxious to stay out of party politics to encourage the creation of a coalition.

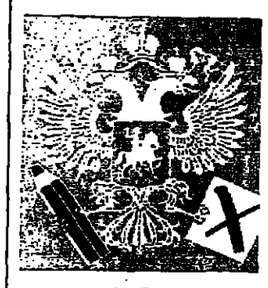
Parties and procedures put voters in disarray

■ **Amid pop music and market stalls, millions took part in the experiment in democracy. Many were confused, voting both for reform and Fascism**

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN BORODINO

VALENTINA Pavlovna had voted, but for whom and for what she was not sure: "I know the name of one of the candidates, so I voted for him," she said. "I don't know which party he belongs to. On the party list I voted for Russia's Choice. Is that Gaidar's party? Oh dear, I don't like him very much."

The elderly lady's confusion was understandable, for yesterday the Russian electorate was faced with four different ballot papers. In Moscow, there were five, including those for the Moscow City Council.



RUSSIAN ELECTION

In Mrs Pavlovna's village of Gorky, south of Moscow, the electorate is largely split between farmers, educated people working at the agricultural research station and commuters to the capital. The farmers seem to take a variety of conservative positions, but the behaviour of the educated voters was harder to predict.

Gorky is now Gorky-Leninsky, because Lenin died at a former noble's mansion near the village in 1924. The area is dominated by a huge concrete museum to Lenin, which served as a voting station. In a Soviet tradition which jarred strangely with the totalitarian architecture but also appears odd to Western visitors, pop music blared from loudspeakers and a variety of goods were on sale in the foyer at subsidised prices to help persuade people to come to vote.

The museum was completed in 1987, just four years before Lenin's state collapsed. Nothing could illustrate more vividly the short historical time span of the Soviet experiment, which yesterday's elections were meant to liquidate.

On the other hand, the Soviet legacy was all too evident in the attitudes of some of the voters, and still more in the large numbers who stayed away. Their irritation with democracy was increased by the great complexity of the voting procedure.

In the ballot papers for the upper house of parliament, the Federation Council, and the individual constituencies of the state Duma were concerned, party affiliation was not lifted. As Aleksandr Zimakov, deputy chairman of the Electoral Commission in the Proletarsky district of Moscow, admitted: "Very few people have come by since the campaign began to look at the information on the candidates that we prepared for the public."

Most candidates for both Houses of Parliament are in any case independent, sometimes backed by several different parties simultaneously. In the Proletarsky district, eight out of 16 Duma candidates were without party affiliation, and had been put up for parliament by a variety of small "voters' groups". These ranged from the Association of Afghan Veterans to the Society for the Dissolution of Communal Apartments.

Bewilderment among the voters led to odd individual voting patterns. Irina Nikolaevna, a housewife, said that she had voted for the reformist Russia's Choice on the party list for the Duma, but for the Federation Council, she had voted for a supporter of Vladimir Zhirinovsky, a neo-Fascist leader. "But how can you vote for two completely contradictory programmes?" she was asked. "Well I don't know about politics — they'll sort it out between them."

As expected, Russia's Choice, though in a clear minority, seemed to be doing the best in most areas of Moscow that I visited, but Mr Zhirinovsky's misleadingly named Liberal Democratic Party also appeared to be doing well, possibly even running second. Its support spanned all generations.

Test for Yeltsin, page 1



A Moscow woman using her magnifying glass yesterday in an effort to unravel the complexities of the Russian electoral ballot paper

Votes were cast in four separate ballots by Russia's 107 million voters to elect a new parliament and approve Yeltsin's new constitution on presidential and government powers

FEDERATION COUNCIL
Upper house of the new parliament, the Federal Assembly

BALLOT 1
178 seats, two for each of Russia's 89 regions, ethnic-based republics, main cities and districts
487 candidates registered
A valid vote required a 25% turnout
Candidates elected under a first-past-the-post system

STATE DUMA, (constituency seats)
Lower house of the new parliament

BALLOT 2
450 seats from individual constituencies
1,566 candidates registered
A valid vote required a 25% turnout
Candidates elected first-past-the-post

STATE DUMA, (Party list seats)
Lower house of the new parliament

BALLOT 3
225 seats fought on a party list system (proportional representation)
13 parties registered
Any list winning less than 5% of national vote excluded, the rest shared out the 225 seats in proportion to number of votes they won
Electors voted for one party only

THE CONSTITUTION

BALLOT 4
National vote to approve Yeltsin's new draft constitution
50% turnout was needed with a 50% majority vote to pass new constitution

THE MAIN PARTIES

Russia's Choice
Leader: Yegor Gaidar

Accord and Unity Party of Russia
Leader: Sergei Shakhrai

Yavlinsky-Boldyrev-Lukin
Leader: Grigori Yavlinsky

Russian Movement for Democratic Reforms
Leaders: Anatoli Sobchak & Yevgeni Shaposhnikov

Democratic Party of Russia
Leader: Nikolai Travkin

Civic Union
Leader: Arkadi Volsky

Agrarian Party of Russia
Leader: Vasili Starodubtsev

Communist Party of the Russian Federation
Leader: Anatoli Lukyanov

Liberal Democratic Party of Russia
Leader: Vladimir Zhirinovsky

Ashdown hints of UK pullout in Bosnia

FROM TOM RHODES IN SARAJEVO

THE British Government is considering whether it should renew the mandate for its troops in central Bosnia beyond next spring, Paddy Ashdown, leader of the Liberal Democrats, said yesterday.

On his fifth visit to the besieged capital of Sarajevo, Mr Ashdown said that high-level sources within the Government had told him that the future of the British operation in Vitez and Gornji Vakuf was under consideration. "I think there is every possibility that come the spring we will pull them out," he said.

The Liberal leader is visiting Bosnia to assess the situation first-hand and was spending yesterday delivering parcels from refugee constituents to their families in Sarajevo. He said he was hoping to visit the Muslim-held town of Zenica but is not expected to visit the headquarters of the British forces at nearby Vitez.

Members of the United Nations protection force in Bosnia believe that the British are unwilling to take an active role in relieving their soldiers from escorting humanitarian aid and it is thought they may be waiting for the Spanish battalion to make the first move. The Government has yet to decide whether to send another infantry battalion to Bosnia next spring — once the 1st Battalion Coldstream Guards has completed its six-month tour — to continue the aid mission.

"My worry is that the sound I hear in the chancelleries of Europe is the sound of people trying to wash their hands of this conflict," Mr Ashdown said, also describing the UN operation as "catastrophic".

'Daddy' knows best as Krajina Serbs go to polls

FROM TIM JUDAH IN VUKOVAR

IT WILL be as Daddy said, an observer remarked. "Daddy" is President Milosevic of Serbia.

Serbia goes to the polls next week, but Serbs in the enclaves ripped from Croatia in 1991 voted yesterday. They were the first general elections to be held in the self-declared republic of Serbian Krajina, and Daddy's results will ensure one thing — the diplomats can talk until kingdom come, but peace is not around the corner.

Krajina is under nominal United Nations protection and the Croatian government has called on the UN to halt the poll. The UN has ignored the request. According to local electoral officials, it has been monitoring the voting plans unofficially.

In the miserable ruins of Vukovar, which fell to Serb forces after a bloody three-month siege, Serbs turned out to cast their ballots for seven presidential candidates and more political parties. "What do we care," Julka, 60, replied when asked what she had voted. "We have lost everything." Janko, her husband, also aged 60, said that "according to the television (from Serbia), the winner should be Martic". He had duly voted for the man.

Milan Martic is the powerful Krajina chief of police and was nominated recently as Daddy's choice. Mr Milosovic dropped Goran Hadzic, his former protégé and now President, because he was always unpopular in the Knin area and has now been accused of abusing his position to make millions.

Diplomatic sources claim that recent talks between the Krajina Serbs and the Croats have gone well. However, the election of Mr Martic is certain to ensure that no settlement is possible.

He said recently that he looked forward to the day when Krajina forces, fighting side by side with Italian troops, would take the Croatian port city of Zadar.

Although state television has indicated that Mr Milosevic's choice is Mr Martic, the Serbian President may get an unpleasant surprise. Straw polls in Vukovar indicated that Rade Leskovac, the local leader of the extreme Radical Party, was leading the field. The leader of the Radicals is Vojislav Seselj. It was Mr Seselj's breaking of an alliance with Mr Milosevic that prompted Serbia's general election.

Gloom in Hungary over leader's death

FROM ADAM LEBOR IN BUDAPEST

HUNGARY'S Prime Minister, Jozsef Antall, died yesterday after more than three and a half years in power during which he oversaw Hungary's transition from dictatorship to democracy.

An air of gloom hung over Budapest last night as radio stations played mournful music to mark his passing. His death at 61, after a long fight against cancer, leaves the ruling but unpopular Hungarian Democratic Forum (MDF) in a state of deep uncertainty.

As the longest-serving of East Europe's post-Communist leaders, he will be remembered as the only one in the region who kept his country in one piece while three of its neighbours disintegrated, sometimes violently. Fresh elections are planned for the spring, but are unlikely to be brought forward. None of the three main opposition parties, the Alliance of Free Democrats, the Federation of Young Democrats, or the Socialist Party, is judged ready to go to the polls yet.

"There will not be any early elections because it is not in anyone's interest, either the governing coalition's or the opposition's," Tibor Vidos, a political consultant, said. "The political structure will remain stable because people were well prepared for his death."

Opposition politicians said the government had been rudderless for months while Mr Antall's condition deteriorated. Mr Antall had been suffering from cancer for years and his illness was disclosed within months of his taking office in May 1990.

There is no obvious successor, although Peter Boross, the Interior Minister, has been running the government for the past few months. A power struggle could now erupt between the three wings of the MDF — authoritarian, Christian democrat, and liberal — which could split the party.

Mr Boross is seen as being firmly on the authoritarian wing of the MDF. Another possible successor is Ivan Szabo, the Finance Minister, who is well respected abroad for his handling of negotiations with the IMF.

Under Hungary's constitution, the government's mandate ceases when the Prime Minister dies, but it may continue in a caretaker capacity with limited powers. Parliament could vote not to elect a new Prime Minister but dissolve itself, and then President Goncz would call elections to instal a new government within three months.



Antall: saved country from disintegration

Obituary, page 17

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Former foes admit they need more time as violence persists in occupied territories

Rabin and Arafat fail to meet their pullout deadline

By Our Foreign Staff

■ The delayed withdrawal of Israeli troops from Jericho and Gaza surprised few. Talks stalled over Israel's desire for security and the PLO's desire for minimum troop levels

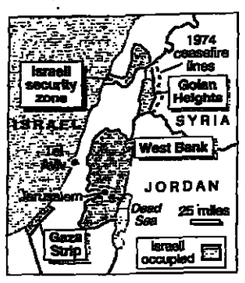
ELEVENTH-hour talks in Cairo to meet today's deadline for the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the Gaza Strip and Jericho ended in failure yesterday. Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli prime minister, said that he and Yassir Arafat, the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, had agreed that more time was needed.

"We decided to give ourselves a certain time to rethink, and we meet again in Egypt in ten days," Mr Rabin told a news conference after the session, which came after two months of talks failed to reach agreement on practical steps for turning over Gaza and the West Bank town to Palestinian control under an accord signed by the two sides.

Mr Arafat, looking disappointed, confirmed the delay, adding that negotiating teams would continue to meet in the interim in the Egyptian coastal town of El-Arish, west of the Gaza Strip, and in Paris.

The delay surprised few observers. It had been widely expected that today's deadline would have to be extended and that Israel might announce a gesture, such as the release of some Palestinian prisoners, to show its commitment despite the delay.

As negotiators remained deadlocked, opponents of the talks — dissident Palestinians and Jewish settlers — have stepped up violence. Yesterday Arabs shot and seriously wounded one Israeli in an attack on an Israeli bus near the Palestinian city of Hebron. Forty-one Palestinians and 14 Israelis have been killed since the signing of the peace accord in Washington on September 13.



Yesterday's meeting was the third between the two old enemies. Mr Rabin, a former general who led the capture of Gaza and the West Bank in 1967, and Mr Arafat, the guerrilla who has fought for 30 years to create a Palestinian state.

President Mubarak of Egypt, who has been mediating between the two sides, met Mr Arafat and Mr Rabin separately before bringing them face to face.

Jericho and the Gaza Strip were to pass into Palestinian control to serve as a model for a wider peace between the two sides. The Washington accord left it up to the negotiators to iron out details of the withdrawal and handing over of power to the Palestinians.

But the talks have repeatedly stalled over Israel's demand for security and the PLO's desire to reduce the Israeli presence to a minimum.

In another development yesterday, Palestinian deportees began dismantling their tent camp in a south Lebanon no man's land. Israel promised to take back all the deportees by Friday, the anniversary of their expulsion for alleged links with hostile militant Islamic groups.

☐ **Heath plea:** Sir Edward Heath, the former Prime Minister, yesterday called on Britain to restore diplomatic links with Iraq two days after successfully securing the release of three Britons imprisoned in Baghdad.

Deadline passes, page 1
Leading article, page 15



An Israeli demonstrator is arrested as 200 right-wingers clashed with police in a Jerusalem march against the Israel-PLO peace accord

Jericho ill-prepared to house new rulers

From Richard Beeston in Jericho

ISRAEL and the Palestine Liberation Organisation may have given themselves ten more days to resolve outstanding differences, but the delay is unlikely to improve significantly the prospects of a smooth transfer of power here in the future seat of the Palestinian government.

While the streets of Jericho were adorned with Palestinian flags and local people were engrossed in speculating about the fate of their oasis town, the future PLO authorities appeared to have done little or nothing to prepare the administration necessary to run the state they have fought so long to create.

There are no government offices to speak of, one trained policeman ready for duty and almost total confusion among the future civil servants, doctors and teachers who are supposed to be employed by the future Palestinian authority.

The most visible failure of the PLO to prepare adequately for statehood is the Hisham Palace Hotel, the grandly named but utterly dilapidated guest house that is supposed to be the headquarters of the new government.

"We have been ready for some time to start work on transforming the building, but the PLO has still not signed the contract," said Rajai Abdo, the hotel owner, who still declares himself optimistic that the handover of power will succeed; but he admits that the process has got off to a shaky start.

In one room, destined to become the office of Yassir Arafat, the PLO chairman, plaster has fallen from the ceiling, the tiled floor is chipped, graffiti cover the walls and the only furnishings are a stool and a pair of discarded tennis shoes.

"When we put our plans into effect the place will be transformed," Mr Abdo said enthusiastically. "This will be Mr Arafat's office and above will be his residence, like the White House in Washington."

Protesters march on in sceptical Gaza

From Caroline Hawley in Gaza

THERE were few signs this weekend to herald the new era supposed to start in Gaza today, the date set by the PLO and Israel for the beginning of the end of 26 years of Israeli occupation.

Scepticism has settled over the Gaza Strip, where violence has surged and confidence in the PLO-Israeli peace deal has plummeted since Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister, and Yassir Arafat, the PLO chairman, signed their agreement.

The familiar sound of gunfire crackled through Gaza City's Palestine Square on Saturday as Israeli troops dispersed opponents of the peace deal. Hundreds of supporters of Hamas and Islamic Jihad marched, in different parts of Gaza, to protest against the accord.

Israel was expected to evacuate at least one military camp in Gaza today, as well as to release many Palestinian prisoners in a symbolic gesture to mark the agreed deadline for the implementation of the peace deal.

"The police leadership committee is ready to take over any place the Israelis evacuate," Zakaria El-Agha, the head of Mr Arafat's mainstream Fatah faction of the PLO in Gaza, said.

Three top officers from the Palestinian Liberation Army arrived in Gaza three weeks ago. Twenty-one Gazans have also received training in Egypt. A further 3,000 have been selected to join the new Palestinian police force. About 1,000 police uniforms have been made for the recruits.

However, in the main PLO office in Gaza City, officials played down expectations for any important transfer of authority to the Palestinian police. "If they withdraw one soldier it's okay with us," Wafiq Abu Sidd, executive secretary of the office, said.

Over the next four months, the structures of Israeli occupation are to be slowly dismantled. Troops will withdraw gradually from the main Palestinian population centres, ceding power to the PLO by April 13.

PLO chief seeks lost gold

By Christopher Walker and John Young

YASSIR Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, will demand the return of £1.5 billion in gold allegedly owed to the Palestinians when he pays an official visit to London this week, PLO officials confirmed yesterday.

In London last night, British Jewish leaders were divided over a decision by Judge Israel Finestein, president of the Board of Deputies, to lead a delegation to meet Mr Arafat. A statement by 60 dayanim (religious judges) and rabbis calls on members of the community to refrain from meeting Mr Arafat or his representatives because the attendant publicity will strengthen public recognition of the PLO, and thus its negotiating stance. Conversely, it weakens the bargaining power of Israel, it claims.

The PLO officials in Tunis claim that the gold originally came from the Ottoman empire and was seized in Jerusalem when Britain ran mandated Palestine before the creation of the Jewish state in 1948. According to Western sources in the Middle East, Britain has consistently maintained that it has paid off most of its debts and that the outstanding figure owed to the Palestinians is less than £1 million.

A Foreign Office official said that when Douglas Hogg, a junior Foreign Office Minister, saw Mr Arafat in Tunis recently the issue of the gold was not raised. "We are working on the basis that, if Mr Arafat wanted to raise it, we would look into it," a Foreign Office spokesman said. Britain was "keeping an open mind".

Sotheby's over moon after £4.7m space sale

By Ben Macintyre

A VARIETY of artifacts from the Soviet space programme, including some that are still in space, sold for a total of nearly $7 million (£4.7 million) in New York.

One bidder at Sotheby's on Saturday paid $68,500 for the Lunokohd 1 lunar surface rover and the Luna 17 descent stage, both of which are still on the Moon's surface. The anonymous buyer has not said when or how he intends to collect the purchase.

The auctioneers' switchboard was jammed with calls from around the globe as collectors attempted to buy up the remnants of the Soviet Union's space projects. The items were offered for sale by former Soviet scientists, cosmonauts and hard-up Russian government agencies. Many of the 226 lots, ranging from spacecraft to handwritten manuscripts, sold for far more than expected.

The price of an autographed draft of flight instructions to Yuri Gagarin for the first manned flight in space had been estimated at $10,000, but finally fetched seven times that amount. A set of Moon rocks collected during the Luma 16 expedition sold for $442,500.



Eight 'executed' as ANC township factions feud

From Ray Kennedy in Johannesburg

A BITTER struggle for power is developing among factions of the African National Congress as the countdown begins for next April's multi-racial election in South Africa.

In the violence-torn township of Katlehong, east of Johannesburg, a feud between the militant ANC Youth League and a pro-ANC self-defence unit erupted into a gun battle that lasted until the early hours of yesterday.

More than 20 people have been killed in the township during the past week, eight of them apparently "executed" after being convicted by a people's court linked to the self-defence unit.

In addition, Winnie Mandela's re-election as president of the important ANC Women's League, after she was written off by many as a political force 18 months ago in the wake of her conviction for kidnap and assault and her separation from Nelson Mandela, has caused consternation within the ANC hierarchy; and she is doing nothing to assuage it.

In an interview yesterday in the Johannesburg *Sunday Star*, she said: "I come from the grassroots, and I cannot let them down now. Grassroots politics is the only struggle I understand. I don't believe in the politics of driving a black Merc and abandoning the masses." It was a clear swipe at what she has called a "cabal" within the ANC headed by Cyril Ramaphosa, the general secretary, and others who formed the leadership of the now defunct United Democratic Front.

It was reported yesterday that Mrs Mandela's political comeback was likely to cause a dilemma for the ANC over whether to include her in the list of election candidates. The Johannesburg *Sunday Times* said guidelines laid down by the national executive precluded the nomination of anyone convicted of serious non-political crimes. However, other sources said that under agreements reached during the multi-party constitutional negotiations, only people who were serving criminal sentences at the time of the poll would be ineligible to stand for election.

For her part, Mrs Mandela is letting her friends and foes wait and see what she does.

The police said yesterday that at least two men died in the Katlehong gun battle that raged through the township from shortly before midnight until before dawn yesterday. Police patrols also came under fire.

Five more people died and eight were injured when a minibus taxi ploughed into the wreckage of an electricity pylon that was blown up in a sabotage attack close to the township of Vosloorus near by on Saturday night. The blast blacked out the town of Boksburg for most of the night.

Robert McBride, freed under political amnesty last year after being sentenced to death for placing a bomb in a Durban beachfront restaurant and now with the ANC peace desk, has confirmed that a group of youths in the township were fighting ANC youth and the civic leaders. Other ANC sources have agreed privately that youth organisations in the township, where hundreds of people have been killed during months of violence, are out of control.

A youth league leader, who refused to give his name because he said he would be killed, said the conflict was over the self-defence unit's quest for absolute power. Chillingly he described the events leading to last week's "execution" of eight of his members. "We mobilised about 40 youths, most of whom were armed, some with AK47s, and went on the hunt for SDU [self-defence unit] members. We started at the home of an SDU chairman known as Blancu. We tried to persuade him to lead us to his comrades, but he was defiant. A member of our group shot him twice with an AK."

Soon the youth league gang was being hunted in turn by the SDU and eight of its members were seized in a gunfight, in which two others were killed, and taken to a shack. There they are said to have been accused and convicted by a "people's court", taken outside and executed.

Cape Town: The Inkatha Freedom Party denounced South Africa's first all-race governing body yesterday and joined right-wing Freedom Alliance parties in talks about the future of constitutional negotiations. Inkatha's statement said the new multi-party Transitional Executive Council was "politically motivated . . . and contrary to natural justice". The ANC has demanded that the alliance should abandon its boycott of the April elections. *(Reuter)*



Mandela: election has caused consternation



Frei: seen as natural successor to Aylwin

Reluctant politician leads Chile

From Gabriella Gamini in Santiago

EDUARDO Frei complied with a family tradition as he was elected President of Chile in Saturday's general elections. Hundreds of his supporters who gathered in Santiago to celebrate the "victory of democracy" remembered a similar celebration for his father in 1964.

The 51-year-old engineer, who shyly took up politics four years ago, gained an overwhelming majority of 57 per cent. He was seen as the natural successor to the four-year government of President Aylwin, credited for Chile's transition to democracy after 17 years of military dictatorship under General Augusto Pinochet.

His coalition party of Christian Democrats and Socialists also won a majority in the Chamber of Deputies and Senate, but was unable to clinch the two-thirds needed to oust supporters of General Pinochet. Arturo Alessandri, of the opposition right-wing coalition, won 24 per cent of the vote.

Smart women buy perfect escort: silent, brainless and plastic

From Ben Macintyre in New York

FORGET the expensive burglar alarms, the car anti-theft devices and the knock-out spray, the safety-conscious woman is buying "Safe-T-Man" this Christmas, a life-size replica of a hunk manufactured in America and guaranteed to scare off muggers, rapists and burglars.

Safe-T-Man is a lifelike plastic replica of a muscle man, available in black and Caucasian models, designed to sit in the passenger seat of a car to prevent car-jacking, America's latest criminal craze.

"You're Never Alone With Safe-T-Man" proclaims the advertising blurb. "Designed for use as a visual deterrent, Safe-T-Man tricks people into thinking you have the protection of a male guardian."

Costing $99.95 (£67) each and packaged complete with stubble or optional moustache, Safe-T-Man looks like a 12-stone bruiser, but in fact weighs in at an easily portable 4 lb. He measures 5ft 10in but his torso is disproportionately long, so that seated in a car Safe-T-Man appears well over 6ft tall.

Although intended principally for use by nervous motorists, Safe-T-Man is remarkably versatile. Placed in the window of your home, for example, he will make even the most determined and eagle-eyed intruder think twice before breaking in.

Safer than a gun, cleverer than a security guard and cheaper than a boyfriend or husband, Safe-T-Man has become the chic Manhattan woman's accessory of choice this season.

Some women have been quick to point out that Safe-T-Man has certain advantages over the real thing. "Dress him according to your preference," encourages the manufacturer, something to which few Real Men would willingly submit. You can even comb his plastic hair.

Safe-T-Man is also a eunuch, the John Wayne Bobbitt of male guardians, which may explain why he is entirely passive and never tries to tell you how to drive.

"Each face has been handpainted to give your Safe-T-Man his own expression," says the manufacturer, so if you do not like the look of your companion you can change it.

Emily Prager, the author, recently took her Safe-T-Man on a shopping spree in Manhattan and pronounced him an ideal companion. "He never complained. He did not want to wait outside because it was getting to him. He did not insist on meeting me back home later. He stayed right with me, until I was ready to go," she writes.

In a country where there are almost as many lawyers as criminals, there is always the possibility of litigation should Safe-T-Man cause an unsuspecting burglar or car-jacker to have heart failure.

The makers have therefore attached a tag to this pliable plastic protector: "Not to be used in the presence of anyone suffering from trauma, strain, shock, discomfort, cardiac or nervous symptoms." The difficulty is that only someone suffering from fairly serious nervous trauma would need to buy Safe-T-Man in the first place.

☐ **Boston:** Travelling by limousine, a secretive Santa is spreading cheer on the streets by handing out $50 bills. Most of his beneficiaries get a card with the message: "Yes, Massachusetts, there is a Santa Claus."

Santa's identity remained unknown yesterday. *(AP)*

News in brief

Turks vote in Cyprus peace tes

Nicosia: Turkish Cypriots voted in parliamentary elections yesterday which could decide the outcome of deadlocked United Nations-sponsored peace talks with the Greek Cypriots (Michael Theodoulou writes).

The election was seen by many as a vote for or against Rauf Denktas, the veteran leader, who wants a clear mandate to pursue the peace talks aimed at reuniting Cyprus under a federal system. He cast aside presidential impartiality to campaign against Dervis Eroglu, the Prime Minister, a former protégé and hardliner who opposes a federal solution.

Actress dies

Paris: Elvire Popesco, the Rumanian-born actress who delighted the French with her aristocratic looks in dozens of light comedies for half a century, has died, aged 98, friends reported. *(Reuter)*

Andorrans vote

Andorra la Vella: Andorrans voted yesterday in the Pyrenean principality's first election under its new consitution. Five political groups were competing for 28 parliamentary seats. *(Reuter)*

54 trapped

Kuala Lumpur: Nine foreigners, none of them Europeans or Americans, and 45 Malaysians were thought be trapped in the debris of luxury block of flats that collapsed on Saturday. *(Reu)*

Fatal fall

Beirut: Maroun Baghdi, a film director known for his portrayal of Lebanon's civil war, died on Friday when he fell down a lift shaft he He was 43. His best knowfilm was *Little Wars*. *(AP)*

هكذا في الأصل

Gatt ringmaster applies whip in last push for deal

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN GENEVA

■ The world's two most powerful trading groups are squabbling after seven years of negotiations. One man is determined to clinch an agreement by Wednesday

AT ABOUT 5 am on Thursday, Peter Sutherland will find out whether he will be remembered as the impresario of the most complicated multilateral negotiation the world has attempted or the ringmaster of a long-running fiasco.

It will be 6 am in Geneva and midnight in Washington. Mr Sutherland, the Irish lawyer who heads the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt), hopes that at that moment a fax will be purring from the American Embassy opposite Gatt's headquarters to President Clinton at the White House. If all goes well, the message will record that a hugely ambitious trade liberalisation treaty has been clinched. If the fax records failure, Mr Clinton's negotiating authority will expire and the treaty will die with it.

From an old-fashioned office, with heavy green velvet curtains and a view of Lake Leman, Mr Sutherland referees 115 countries from Algeria to Zimbabwe which bargain over everything from asparagus to zips. Gatt's director-general has little formal power, but he can threaten the stubborn by pointing the finger of blame. No country wants to be held responsible for bringing seven and a half years of work crashing down in failure this week.

Yesterday Mr Sutherland was busy raising the temperature and leaving the more stubborn delegations under no illusion that they can conceal any reluctance to do a deal. As Mr Sutherland fights on for an agreement, European Finance Ministers, after a weekend of being largely excluded from the deliberations of a European Union summit mainly devoted to economics, will sit down today to disentangle the meeting's mixed signals on creating jobs and growth.

The Prime Ministers awarded Jacques Delors' recipes for revival high marks, but made few promises. Although the statement agreed by John Major and his fellow leaders said that the EU might consider borrowing up to £6 billion above and beyond money already earmarked for roads, railways and telecommunications, the Finance Ministers remain in control of the sums and financial operations.

M Delors won enough support from other leaders to push a sceptical Mr Major and Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, towards talking about bigger sums of money but not enough to launch the EU as a bank dedicated to building motorways from Paris to Prague. There will be no new methods of financing these projects, Herr Kohl said firmly at the end of the summit. The idea of Brussels issuing "Union bonds" has sunk from sight.

In the Gatt drama, the principal players are already under siege. Mickey Kantor, America's trade negotiator, Sir Leon Brittan, for the European Community, and their Canadian counterpart tried taking the Japanese Foreign Minister for a private dinner at a club patronised by Swiss bankers in Geneva's old town on Saturday. They were promptly run to earth by a posse of feverishly curious Japanese television crews.

Mr Sutherland is no stranger to all-night haggling in several languages at once: he served four years in Brussels as a successful European Commissioner for competition. A success in Geneva would bring him closer to his ambition to be the first Irish president of the European Commission. Mr Sutherland spends hours on the telephone and in meetings with Sir Leon, who also has his eye on the Commission presidency.

Europe's quarrels with itself and with America are shrinking to manageable proportions. A compromise involving new and faster procedures for "anti-dumping" actions could help secure French blessing for a deal later in the week. After years of being the target of the world's pressure, Europe's negotiators are starting to turn the tables on an American Administration which is displaying less skill in moving towards the final compromises.



Peter Sutherland yesterday, pressing on for accord

Winners and losers, page 34


Umberto Bossi telling delegates at the Milan congress of his desire to create three semi-autonomous "republics" in Italy, with a skeletal administration in Rome

Federalist Bossi garners support

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

UMBERTO Bossi, the Lombardy League leader, yesterday stamped out dissent within his devolutionist movement and won support from Silvio Berlusconi, the media mogul, for his plans for a federalist Italy.

At a party congress in Assago, Signor Bossi restated his intention to create three semi-autonomous "republics" of the north, centre and south, leaving only a skeletal central administration in Rome. Franco Rocchetta, his main rival within the umbrella Northern League, evidently abandoned an attempt to win control of the largest political force in northern Italy.

Signor Berlusconi, who owns three television stations and the AC Milan soccer club, telephoned Signor Bossi and encouraged his efforts to make the League a goal for moderate voters who want to stop the Democratic Party of the Left winning a spring general election, Italian newspapers said.

Signor Bossi also invited Mario Segni, the main organiser of the April electoral reform referendum, to join forces with him but excluded an alliance with Gianfranco Fini, the neo-Fascist leader of the Italian Social Movement, with whom he is competing for the right-wing vote.

Jackson 'sighted' back in America

BY CHRISTOPHER GOODWIN —IN LOS ANGELES

WAS that really Michael Jackson in the red hat, red shirt and red surgical mask, seen scurrying across the Santa Barbara airport runway just before dusk on Friday evening?

Television crews and tabloid reporters were not taking any chances. Within hours of the reported sighting, they had besieged the Neverland ranch, Jackson's home just 40 miles from the airport. It was there that a 13-year-old boy claims that Jackson sexually molested him.

But there was no sign of Jackson. However, Michelle Waters, a secretary at the airport, told a local channel that after the aircraft landed "two or three bodyguard types got out and looked around. Then two young boys got out, maybe teenagers, and ran to this minivan. Then Michael Jackson got out. He had ... a red surgical mask over his mouth."

According to the *Los Angeles Times*, the "sighting" was confirmed by a customs officer in Billings, Montana, who went on board to check passports after the plane arrived from London.

Jackson's lawyers have in recent days been negotiating here on conditions for his return. Jackson is due to give evidence to the boy's lawyer in the civil case against him on January 19, with the trial set for late March.

☐ Evita decision: Oliver Stone, director of *Platoon*, *Born on the Fourth of July* and *JFK*, has been chosen to direct the film version of *Evita*, the Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice stage musical.

Clinton told Korea conflict would be on Gulf War scale

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Clinton will try to halt North Korea's nuclear weapons programme by diplomatic means because he has been warned that America would need reinforcements on the scale of the Gulf War to win a conventional encounter that could cause hundreds of thousands of casualties.

At the same time Les Aspin, the US Defence Secretary, announced yesterday that 2,500 of the 8,200 American troops in Somalia will be withdrawn before Christmas. He also reiterated President Clinton's commitment to pull out all US troops by March 31.

It was the first time the Administration had indicated that nearly a third of the remaining US forces would be removed so far ahead of the March deadline. Mr Aspin did not offer any explanation.

Mr Clinton was briefed last Friday on the consequences of another Korean War by Mr Aspin and General John Shalikashvili, chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff. They told him that victory in a non-nuclear war against North Korea would take up to four months of "high-intensity combat" by combined American and South Korean forces.

Mr Aspin confirmed yesterday that, with 16 million people living in and around Seoul and close to the Korean border, any ground war would be costly, particularly for civilians. Mr Aspin said that, while there was great uncertainty about the extent of the suspected nuclear programme, there was a possibility that North Korea might possess a nuclear bomb.

According to American satellites and intelligence, however, North Korea is not now developing plutonium to build more nuclear bombs, Mr Aspin said. Appearing on NBC's *Meet the Press*, he insisted that, although the tension between North and South Korea was dangerous, it was no more so now than it had been six months ago.

North Korea have refused to allow unlimited United Nations inspections of all seven of its nuclear sites and Mr Clinton has attempted to woo the Stalinist regime with a series of incentives, including aid for its collapsing economy. In return, Pyongyang's atomic ambitions would have to be abandoned and its nuclear sites opened for inspection.

A shake-up in the higher echelons of North Korea also left experts guessing yesterday when Kim Yong Ju, the 71-year-old brother of the "Great Leader", President Kim Il Sung, 81, was installed as one of two Vice-Presidents after 18 years out of public view. His decline coincided with the rise of the "Dear Leader", Kim Jong Il, 51, the President's son and heir apparent. Did the younger brother's political resurrection mean that the son was on the decline?


Aspin: casualties among civilians would be high

No one was sure and the incident served to underline the chronic lack of information that Mr Clinton and his allies must grapple with in trying to bring North Korea to its senses.

Patten rebuffs Peking hints of intervention in colony

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

THE leaders in Peking, by reviving Deng Xiaoping's threat to crush "man-made chaos" in Hong Kong, have shown that Chris Patten's Bill this week, providing for a slight increase in democracy, has real teeth.

Mr Patten, Governor of the colony, rejected the Chinese threats yesterday, saying: "There is no turmoil or chaos in Hong Kong ... We have a stable and prosperous, incredibly successful community, recognised as such by the whole of the world."

Li Peng, the Chinese Prime Minister, and Qian Qichen, Deputy Prime Minister, reminded 30 "patriotic" Hong Kong members of the Peking-appointed Preliminary Working Group at the weekend that in 1982 Mr Deng had warned Baroness Thatcher (then Prime Minister) that in the event of "serious disturbances ... man-made disturbances ... we would then be compelled to reconsider the timing and manner of the takeover".

"Isn't the Patten proposal this man-made disorder?" Mr Qian, who is also Foreign Minister, asked. "If co-operation breaks down, we cannot sit back and watch disorder in Hong Kong."

It is possible, although unlikely, that this is a crude warning of possible military intervention. Lady Thatcher recalled in her memoirs that, during her conversation with Mr Deng in 1982, he observed "that the Chinese could walk in and take Hong Kong later today if they wanted to".

That was 11 years ago, but over the weekend Tsang Yokshing, one of Peking's most influential and moderate spokesmen in Hong Kong, said: "If we believe that some day, when China is not happy with things going on in Hong Kong, they will send their troops, what can we do [to stop them]?"

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An ex-directory telephone number may be considered the height of chic, but is really a cowardly retreat from human contact

Hang-ups of the great unlisted



LIBBY PURVES

Britain leads the world in self-important, paranoid, control freaks: official. Something to be proud of, perhaps: an international championship, all our own. A gold medal in pathological secretiveness and suspicion of our fellow-men. We are the Bah! Humbug generation.

Forgive me. I am still hyperventilating over the devastating news from BT that Britain has the highest average of ex-directory numbers in the world: that in London (hold on to your hat) 43 per cent of its customers are now unlisted, that 40 per cent of south-west Essex men and women don't want their number in the book at any price, and that elsewhere in the home counties it is over a third.

In Tunbridge Wells (35 per cent), BT has been reduced to writing to the great unlisted, pleading with them at least to let directory enquiries give out their number to anyone who knows their address. However, a straw poll of Tunbridge Wellians, conducted by a newspaper, found them reluctant. "It does seem more private not to have your name and address listed in the book. I just didn't want any old person looking me up and telephoning," they said. And "I need my own private time. I don't want to be pestered by people I do not know." The town's very own tourism manager piously announced that although elected council members have to have their numbers in, she isn't listed herself. "My husband and I are people with little free time. We do not want to be harassed."

If you think these sound like reasonable, private, jolly nice balanced people, then I beg of you don't read on. Not today. I am only going to annoy you, and in Advent too. If, on the other hand, a fluttering moth of unease stirs in you at the figures above, stay aboard. Let us pin it down and examine it.

Nobody would condemn an ex-directory name who had been persecuted by obscene callers, or who has a violently abusive ex-partner and cannot afford fifty quid for an answering machine with a loudspeaker to screen calls. I am not putting the boot into them. And I am only putting a gentle, qualified boot into those whose day jobs expose them to a higher than average number of nutters, drunks and criminals. I can see that some judges with nervous spouses might feel more secure out of the book (although you would be amazed at the number who defiantly stay in it). Even major celebrities with a predominantly nutty following have some excuse: I suppose if you are going onstage nightly in an amazing Technicolor dreamcoat, you get sick of wading through shrill answerphone messages pleading for a love-child. But even 20 years ago, people with such real provocation for going ex-directory would express frustration: they felt their freedom was being unfairly curtailed, much as we women do when told not to walk home after dark. We get angry; we march to reclaim the night.

You still find this attitude among the older generation of telephone subscribers: my few journalistic coups have nearly all been the result of a hunch that certain people will stay listed against all odds. While the rest of the pack are hysterically searching their books for mutual contacts who owe them favours, I ring Directory Enquiries. "Ferguson, Major R., of Dummer, Hampshire," I said once in the Duchess's heyday, and the girl refused to look. "Ooh, he won't be listed." I made her. He was. His kind wife gave me his number in America, and there I was: a scoopster at last. Say what you like about Major Ron, he belonged to a tougher generation, when people forced to go ex-directory resented it as an ungentlemanly form of hiding.

Now, the signs are that they think it is chic. I refuse to believe that 43 per cent of Londoners get regular obscene calls, or even double-glazing ones. They are simply turning their back on strangers (and casual friends), rejecting any form of human contact they have not chosen. They are probably the sort of compulsive motorists who are uncomfortable in public transport, lest they catch a stranger's eye or his germs. Many of them no doubt travel with their own sheets and paper lavatory-seat covers. They don't care about leaps in communication, the pleasures of a coherent society and a national village. They want out. They would be shocked and unsettled to hear how my husband once rang the royal palace in Belgium and got an affable "King speaking"!

I told you not to read on, didn't I? You are saying "Bah — sheltered life — doesn't know what its like out there — probably unlisted herself . . ." Well, nuts. I do know what it is like. Having recently defended dog registration in a Sunday tabloid, this morning I had two death threats by post. Every day I get calls beginning "You don't know me, but . . ." Every week I swear at double-glazing salesmen and market researchers. But I am not going to hide, oh no. Harass me at your peril. I have the tin whistle by the telephone.

Feudal life, at a price

Sam Kiley, our man in Africa, on his never-ending servant problem

SAM KILEY



The staff of 121 Lamwia Road: given individual plots, they have turned the compound into a flourishing market garden over which their indulgent employer has no control

I have a house in Africa, at the foot of the Ngong hills. Actually I have two houses, four acres of garden, and a paddock. I also have a swimming pool and a sunken bath in an outhouse. All for less than the cost of a bedsit in Tooting. I have servants. Lots of them, a small horde. I like not having to wash up or do my laundry, mow the lawn or guard the house. I pay them above the average, by Kenyan standards, but they take home a mere £40 a month, each.

Politically correct dicta would have it that a white man (in particular) should not employ servants. That this form of employment is demeaning, exploitative, and an unpleasant echo of the bad old colonial days. This is absolutely true, though these critics might be surprised to hear who is demeaned, exploited and colonised.

Though my politically correct credentials are immaculate — sired by a former South African exile and brought up by a feminist academic organic farmer — when I moved to Africa I had no qualms about hiring *watu* (people/staff). I saw it as my moral responsibility to take on as many as I could afford, a sort of Third World job-creation scheme. Besides, I looked forward to an end to domestic chores. I anticipated a happy feudalism. Now, I know why feudalism died: it is an unbearable burden on the landlord.

Kenyans, black or white, never talk about their servants. Expatriates in Nairobi talk of little else because *watu* consume their lives. But Kenyans do warn the new arrival not to hire off the street, which is exactly how I recruited my servants. I have had the worst luck with nightwatchmen, known here as *askaris*.

The first, Nyakuyu, arrived at the gates and asked for a job. He was six foot four, a member of the war-like Turkana tribe, grey haired, and built from high tensile steel.

"Why do you want to be an *askari*?"

"Because I want to kill some one," he said. I hired him on the spot.

And fired him a month later. It was not so much his napping in my car, or even his unusual methods of extorting money for medical bills which included showing me the scab on his penis as proof of his need for urgent treatment. The final straw came when he chased Ester, my maid, around her house with cries of drunken lust, at 2 am.

Nyakuyu's successor, a Masai, lasted only a short time before his sleeping on duty did him out of a job. The next *askari*, Jeremiah, was officially fired for pilfering. But what really did for him was his friend, the policeman, whom we paid to deliver water.

He came three times in a six-ton lorry. He smashed a manhole cover to the sewerage system on his first trip, broke two fences and tore up a freshly planted bed of tuber roses on his second. On the third we stopped him at the gate. So he backed up and knocked down a pylon carrying electricity to about ten homes. Then Jeremiah stole his fee.

Other responsibilities have also weighed heavily on me: marriage, children, sickness, property, and the police. Not mine; I am unmarried, childless, in robust health, own not an inch of land or mortar, and have been arrested in my professional capacity only.

But Eston, the gardener, got married, had a child, and then reneged on the bride price. So her family repossessed Eston's wife and little boy. The price for their release — £90.

Children? I have no idea how many live on my compound, it varies. They are great fun, but for their illnesses, crèche and school fees. These are normally the parents' problems; I might as well have fathered the lot of them.

Ester, like Eston, is a five foot tower of strength. I put her in charge — just to annoy the males who work for me, who are from male-dominated, warrior tribes — Turkana, Masai and Samburu. But her brother was found guilty of smoking grass — £20 "spot fine". Ester has also bought a farm — £400.

Lomodok, the Admirable Crichton of 121 Lamwia Road, is building a house (£90). Joseph, the longest serving *askari*, an incredible mime, who does the strangest break-dancing salutes when he opens the gate, calls me "father". That honour comes with the attendant burdens: his wife and three kids.

Land is short in Kenya. It seemed reasonable to lend some of my unnecessarily large garden to the *watu* so they could have their own *shambas* (mini-farms). My own vegetable patch is little larger than a north London allotment and has borne dead tomatoes and a few wilted spinach plants.

But the compound looks like a market garden, and probably is. On three sides of my house now the lawns have been turned inside out and produce heaps of beans, maize, and green vegetables. I never see the staff working their gardens, but every time I come back from reporting some nasty little African war, the borders of the shambas have been extended 20 feet.

Yet I like it. Having servants appeals to the liberal in me. Those I can name in my little village I consider my friends. And I have found an equitable way to redistribute my "wealth" and land.

A POT POURRI OF CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS (INCLUDING, OF COURSE, THE POT POURRI)



Even an averagely good nose should be able to sniff out presents for everyone at Simpson 203, Piccadilly, London W1. There's wooden games and puzzles from £6, trinket boxes from £9.50, glassware from the remarkably swirly Anne Toomey range, cushions embroidered with quotes from 'Eat, drink and remarry' to 'I am a luxury few can afford,' photo frames from wooden to silver, silk ties emblazoned with elephants from a very strange mind indeed and handbags from the size of a matchbox up. There's simply not space to go on apart from to mention our seasonally fragrant pot pourri that is. Oh the sweet smell of Christmas.

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The real tragedy behind the Liberty wife

In a town like Guildford, reality is turned too readily into banality



MARGOT NORMAN

I hate Guildford, and always have. Not for aesthetic reasons, though they are persuasive, but because it is a place I have always associated with the commuter marriage that gets gradually drained of affection, with husbands leaving before dawn and bringing home the bacon when it's too dark for the wife to show him what she's done in the garden.

The links between them wear ever thinner. For her, 15 years of busyness and child-rearing followed by 15 of sterile plenty interspersed with gardening and good works or adultery. For him, 30 years of striving and providing, followed by retirement, identity crisis and often an early heart attack.

No doubt there are many happy marriages in Guildford, but it's the other sort we have been hearing about since last Wednesday's inquest into the suicide by drowning of Melvyn Parker, the handsome handyman who fell in love with a blonde called Margaret who will forever be known as the Liberty wife because her husband, Patrick, is chief executive of that wonderland in Regent Street.

Baldly, the tale is as follows. Patrick and Margaret, then in their late forties with three grown sons and a teenage daughter, employed Melvyn, aged 39 with a wife and two teenage daughters, to do some painting and decorating in their house, which the tabloids call a mansion but a developer would call an executive home.

While Patrick was off striving and providing, Margaret and Melvyn fell in love, discovered the joys of country walks, camping and anonymous motels, and left notes for each other on shop windows all over Guildford, written on pink paper hearts in a secret shorthand that Margaret taught Melvyn.

The balloon went up last Christmas. Patrick summoned Melvyn's wife Patricia to a local superstore and there showed her compromising photographs of the lovers taken by a private detective he had hired. Patrick allegedly described Melvyn as his wife's "bit of rough", said she would soon tire of "slumming it" and announced that he had taken away Margaret's BMW convertible, which he thought was the main attraction for Melvyn.

He was wrong. Melvyn left Patricia and waited for Margaret, his true love, to come and live with him. Margaret dithered, couldn't bring herself to leave.

Meanwhile, Patricia gathered her daughters and went to beg Margaret to give Melvyn up (grinding her sharpest stilettos into the expensive floor Melvyn had just laid in Margaret's kitchen).

Melvyn, who had begun the affair regarding himself as a useless, unemployed and uneducated hunk, had by now blossomed into a love poet and avid letter-writer. He wrote long letters to Patrick apologising for his wife's behaviour. Patrick, by contrast, communicated with Margaret through notes left on the kitchen worktop: they alternated between stiff reminders of her duty not to let him and the children down and gut-jealous references to Melvyn's abilities between the sheets.

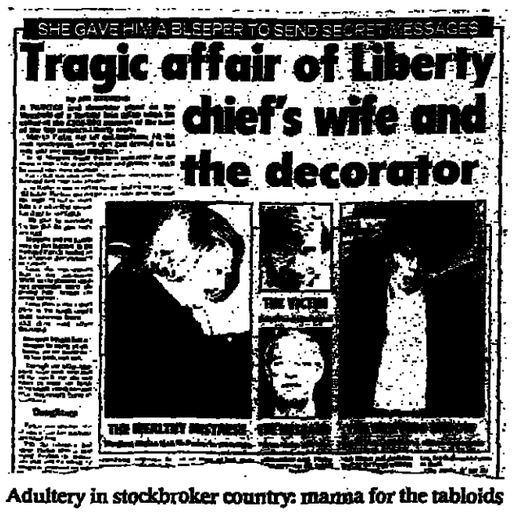
Margaret went on dithering even after divorce had smashed both families. Melvyn, increasingly hopeless and now facing a DSS prosecution for taking wages from his mistress, among others, while on the dole, disappeared. Margaret searched frantically, but too late: Melvyn's weighted body was found in the Brighton marina.

Both women have been talking to the tabloids. Patricia's version has a wealthy she-devil, married to a heartless snob, who turned her Melvyn's head with fast cars and smart hotels, equipped him with a bleeper "like a dog at the beck and call of its owner" and "offered him the key to another world". She claims Margaret has now similarly bewitched Melvyn's lookalike brother Rodney.

Margaret denies both this latest twist and the material temptation line: full of tearful remorse, she goes on about how bored she was with Ascot and Wimbledon, how alienated by a husband who loved his Porsche but belittled his wife, how transfigured by the discovery of simple pleasures with a tender lover.

The awful thing about such tragedies is the way in which real individuals, with real strengths and failings, are reduced by high emotional drama to ciphers mouthing clichés. At the inquest on the labourer-poet, we have Patricia hissing about how her rival is supposed to be a lady, and how she wants none of ladyship if that's what it involves. Later we have Margaret, who admits that her ideas on adultery come from television and *Cosmopolitan* magazine, repeating without irony a policeman's comforting remark at the inquest: "I'm afraid you're dealing with real people, she's not an educated woman like you."

Real people, real follies. Next time you're in Guildford, ponder the several meanings of H.L. Mencken's dictum that adultery is the application of democracy to love.



Adultery in stockbroker country: manna for the tabloids

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هكذا من الأصل

Jean-Paul Gaultier's shows are expected to be light-hearted — but behind the joker a cool brain is at work









Above centre: "Jean-Paul" as portrayed by the artists Pierre et Gilles. Above right: a section from Gaultier's advertising campaign for autumn/winter 1993/4.

Above: Fake fur coat, £1,050; dress (sold with polo neck, not shown), £189, Jean-Paul Gaultier, Galerie Gaultier, 171-175 Draycott Avenue, SW3. Black tights, £3.99, Aristoc, large department stores. Black mules, £110, Russell & Bromley, nationwide

Above left: Fake fur sleeved roll neck, £169; tartan kilt, £450, Jean-Paul Gaultier; A la Mode, 38 Hans Crescent, SW1; Firenze, Unit 18, Westbury Centre, Belfe Street, Dublin; Room 7, 26 St Charles Street, Leeds

Photographs: MARTYN THOMPSON. Hair: Adam Meli for Anthony Yacomine. Makeup: Kim Jacob. Model: Sarah Jones. Stylist: Rachel Collins

Seriously Gaultier



Fashion

IAIN R. WEBB

Bleach-blond fashion designer Jean-Paul Gaultier must be one of the oldest swingers in town. At 41, he is still referred to as an *enfant terrible* by the French fashion establishment. "As you can see, I am no longer so young any more," says the designer. "Yet people expect me to create funny collections, to make them laugh."

His career has not always provided such mirth — his first collection was a catastrophe. "It was horrible, truly bad," he says. "So I did another and another and finally got a little press coverage. At that time I had nothing to lose, but after you have a little success you have to follow it with another one, and it has to be a little bigger each time."

He worked for Cardin, Tarlazzi and Patou before launching his own label in 1976, and concedes that it was far easier creating collections before the media microscope began to focus on him.

Gaultier's position at the cutting edge of fashion has been further hampered by his desire to make economic sense of his fantastic ideas. "In the end you have to sell," he says. "Maybe you want to change your style and the customer doesn't want to follow. I remember doing big shapes for men and then moved quickly to a very tight silhouette, and ... it was too quick. It frightened even the faithful customer." This misjudged mood swing cost Gaultier a lot in sales. "When you haven't done a collection before, you can be more spontaneous. Now I must arrive at a balance."

This season he achieved the perfect balance, with a inspired collection which was unanimously applauded. From the first models wearing tattoo-print stretch T-shirts, to the finale of sackcloth shifts worn with chainmail tunics, this collection was a triumph.

Gaultier beamed as he appeared at the end of the show, wearing a tartan mini kilt. "This last collection was very me, which I truly like. I was thinking maybe some people will hate it, but I didn't care, and truly it was maybe more successful than when I have tried to please everyone. Always you have a surprise. You cannot plan anything."

It would certainly have been difficult to second-guess Gaultier's career, during which he has advocated skirts for men; put Madonna in a pointy brassiere; recorded a rap song, *Ow To Do Zat*, featuring Selina Scott; produced a perfume bottle in the shape of his grandmother's corset; and co-presented *EuroTrash* on Channel 4. All were unlikely successes. Perhaps it is not the product which shocks so much as the brilliant vision behind them?

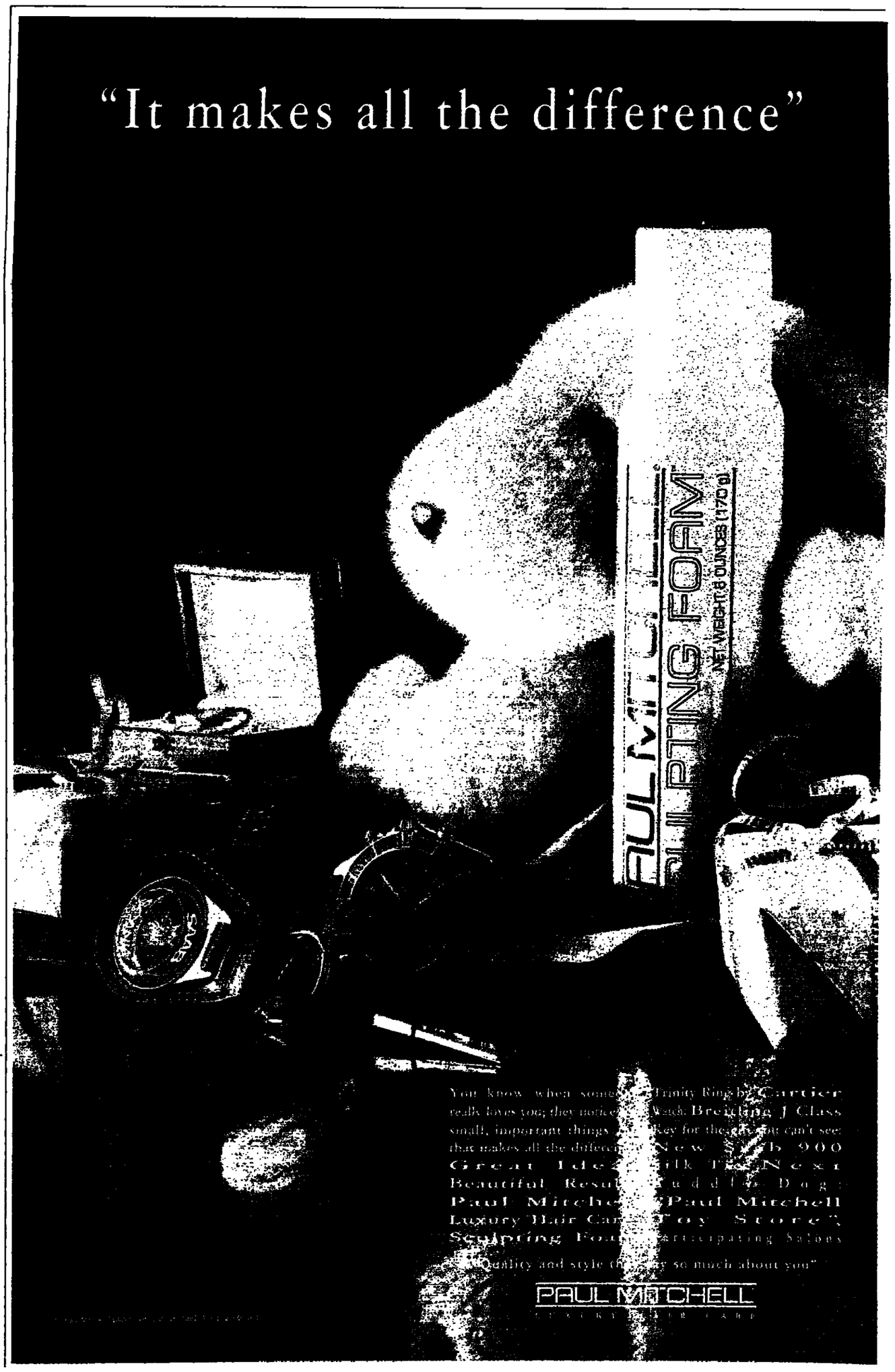
Gaultier on the set of EuroTrash, Channel 4

Gaultier is unnervingly ingenuous. "Maybe I wouldn't be so well known if I didn't make clothes that shock, but it is part of my personality. The press like to show the sensational, and I think the public like to be shocked. I cannot blame the press, but I do make my clothes to be worn by anyone, and I make the show to deliver an exaggerated message. Sometimes, afterwards in the media, there are more pictures of the outrageous hair and makeup than of the little sweater which anyone can wear."

His fondness for the freaky has caused him to be unfairly painted as a couture comedian — a mantle which does not always fit comfortably. Last season he created an extraordinarily elegant collection inspired by the orthodox Jewish faith. Despite his protestations that the collection was celebrating the uniqueness of a minority, his good intentions were dismissed as, at their best misguided, at their worst attention-seeking. Gaultier is both hurt and puzzled.

"This collection was not just about the Jewish culture, it was for all minorities. When you are rejected it is better not to hide yourself," he says. "I like that collection, but it was a little less Gaultier because I usually like to mix up cultures, and traditions. But not with the Jewish collection. I made a great effort to keep the image clear and beautiful, so as not to make a scandal or have people take it as a joke."

Gaultier's continued success is certainly no laughing matter. Over the years he has apparently effortlessly polarised endless trends. How has he managed to get it exactly right each season? His answer is as unpretentious as the man himself. "I experience many coincidences and try to give them some kind of coherence, or even contrast them together. Sometimes I don't find the harmony which maybe makes a bad collection, maybe a good one. I don't know."



Matthew Parris



■ A good samaritan in a snowstorm is in a perfect position to enjoy the fruits of heavenly retribution

Revenge, they say, is a dish best served cold. For me, yesterday, it was served in a blizzard. It was sweet.

He was one of those people to whom you take an instant dislike — thirty-something in those expensive sunglasses which tint themselves according to the glare. He had an unnaturally smooth, yellowish suntan, as though from skiing, or the sunbed at his gymnasium. He wound down the window of his car.

I had been tapping on it. I must, it is true, have looked a bit odd, wearing an old anorak, hastily grabbed for protection, as was my Bolivian truck-driver's cap. On my hands I wore old white socks, as I have lost my mittens: on my feet Wellington boots. I was on my way to Mapleton, near Ashbourne, Derbyshire, for lunch with a friend and already more than an hour late.

The problem was the snow. It hit us with completely unexpected force around the middle of yesterday morning. From the kitchen window I could see snowdrifts piling up on the little road over the hill from my house, so I left early, taking a spade. My Land Rover is 35 years old, but it has crossed the Sahara twice: a little snow between Elton and Mapleton should prove no obstacle.

> 'On my hands I wore old white socks, as I have lost my mittens'

It didn't. More of a problem were the police. At Newhaven (Derbyshire) I was advised by an officer that a lorry had jackknifed further down the Ashbourne road and was blocking traffic in both directions. I decided to give it a try anyway.

But it was no good. Cars were slithering all over the place. There was no salt and no snowplough. The snow seems to have taken Derbyshire County Council completely by surprise. No doubt it is too busy organising the next civic reception to celebrate the anniversary of Nelson Mandela's release from prison, and it is unfair to expect it to bother with anything so parochial as keeping the roads open.

After a few miles I reached a jam of cars unable to move forward or back. So I struck off down a side road to Biggin and Hartington. Thence, via the Staffordshire lanes, I could reach Mapleton.

It was wild. The snow was tipping down and blowing sideways. It was drifting all over the road. I helped push an elderly couple out of a ditch, giving them a merry salute as they bowled gratefully off in their little hatchback. There are only a few days in the year when it makes any difference to own a four-wheel-drive vehicle, but when the time comes, the pleasure is all the greater for having endured the taunts of friends every time one drove to Tesco in an all-terrain vehicle.

All was going fine, though by now I was seriously late. It was after Alstonefield that the trouble started. There is a long downhill stretch out of the village and I started to meet cars in difficulty climbing up towards me. Eventually I encountered a fellow who had slithered to a stop.

You can't just leave people, can you? All he needed was a bit of a push, by hand. This I offered, two chaps from another car coming to help. We had got up a reasonable pace when, round the bend, came a car descending the hill towards us. It was a very slinky number: one of those ultra-modern sports saloons, aerodynamic, moulded, with no edges. It looked like a sucked sweet. This lemon drop simply stopped in the middle of the road, blocking our path.

You shouldn't block someone struggling up a hill, especially when he has got up a bit of a momentum. I ran ahead to the lemon drop and tapped on its window. Mr Cool, in sunglasses, rolled it down. Loud disco music flooded from his stereo.

"Could you pull over?" I asked, "to let this fella we're pushing get past?"

"Why?" he said. "He might slide into me and scratch my paintwork. Let *him* pull over."

"We might never get him moving again from the shoulder," I said.

"That's your problem," he said.

I walked away in great anger. We had no choice but to stop and let him pass. But we did get moving again. Soon I was waving off the fellow we had pushed. I resumed my journey.

After Alstonefield you eventually reach the river Dove, crossing it at a beautiful little stone bridge: then begins a steep climb through woods, back up on to the Ashbourne road. My Land Rover gripped well and it became clear that I was going to make my lunch, however late.

I forgot my anger.

Just before you reach the top where the main road is, there is one last, steep stretch. Rounding the bend to climb this, I spotted the lemon drop ahead of me. It had slid off the crown of the road and one of its wheels was spinning helplessly.

But all the driver needed was a little nudge and he would be away — home and dry, in fact, for there were no further hills. I drove straight past him, with a jolly *parp-parp*, Noddy-style, on my Land Rover's old hooter.

You can forget sex, wine and chocolates. I simply cannot remember a moment of more intense pleasure. Not for years.

Our knowledge of genius and genes offers a future of wondrous and fearful opportunity

On being spliced to J.S. Bach

William Rees-Mogg

I have never asked Bill Deedes, the distinguished former editor of *The Daily Telegraph*, whether he can whistle, though I suspect he may not be able to. He and I have the same speech impediment — we are glossally disadvantaged — and cannot produce the proper sibilance of our "ss"; I suppose that is how one spells the plural of the letter "s", though it looks odd. The defect is known technically as a lateral lisp, because the "s" is pronounced out of the side of the mouth rather than through the front teeth. The impediment, in my case, also makes it impossible for me to get my tongue into a position to whistle. Winston Churchill also had a lateral lisp, which was much imitated; it is perhaps too late to ask whether he could whistle, though his daughter, Mary Soames, may remember.

I imagine that this, and other speech defects of the same order, are genetically determined, as is short sight. Certainly they seem to be innate; they begin at the start of life and can seldom be cured. They may lead to some teasing in youth, but do not seem to do any lasting harm; perhaps, like the pebbles that Demosthenes put in his mouth, they actually stimulate oratory. Apart from Churchill's lisp, Lenin shared with Roy Jenkins the tendency to pronounce "r" as "w". If these inabilities are genetic, the gene responsible is not a dominant one. I know of none of my forebears who have had any difficulty with the letter "s", and all my children can whistle.

The rapid exploration of the genetic code will scarcely give a high priority to establishing what combination of genes results in these problems. Nor is it likely that even the most enthusiastic eugenicists would wish to abort all foetuses which were likely to lisp in later life; I suppose that aborting Lenin might have had a favourable effect on world history — though Russia might have suffered an even worse revolution — but if the price had been the destruction of all the rest of us, neither Roy Jenkins, Bill Deedes or I would have been keen to pay it. Yet in due course, when they have dealt with the major inherited diseases, and placed them in their appropriate position in micro-genetics, the scientists will start to look at the genetic origins of many other human inheritances.

Long before DNA was discovered, that rather unpleasant man, Francis Galton, a cousin of Charles Darwin, wrote his fundamental work on *Hereditary Genius*. It was first published by Macmillan in 1869, only ten years after the first appearance of Darwin's *Origin of Species*; Galton is the father of modern genetics, as Darwin is of modern biology. The most extraordinary case he quotes of the apparent inheritance of a particular mental faculty is the musical talent of the Bach family.

"The Bachs were a musical family, comprising a vast number of individuals, and extending through eight generations. It began in 1550, it culminated in Sebastian and its last known member was Regina Susanna, who was alive in 1800. There are far more than 20 eminent musicians among the Bachs; the biographical collections of musicians give the lives of no less than 57 of them. It was the custom of the family to meet in yearly reunions at which the entertainments were purely musical. In or about 1750 as many as 120 Bachs attended one of these meetings."

Johann Sebastian Bach, the transcendent musical genius of the family, was the son of an identical twin. The brothers were so alike in appearance, and also in manner, that it is said their wives could not tell them apart except by their clothes. Both were excellent musicians. If musical ability were a disease, the Bach family would certainly be regarded as a classic case of hereditary transmission.

In terms of numbers, the Bach family stands alone, in music or in any other specific talent. But Galton was able to show that high talent recurred in other families in a way that suggested it must be hereditary. The alternative explanation is that education and culture account for it. On this theory the Bachs were very musical because they were brought up in a very musical family. Yet people brought up in such families show wide variation in their talents. As in the transmission of certain diseases, there seems in the Bachs to be a strong genetic element, though it might have been enhanced by cultural support. Every parent discovers that there is an innate character in children which cannot be changed by education or family influence.

Not all geniuses are associated with other geniuses in the same family, or even with exceptional talent. None of Shakespeare's known relations was remarkable; none of Isaac Newton's; none of Samuel Johnson's. Among scientists Galton lists 18 who "seem to have had no kinsmen of marked ability". They include Tycho Brahe, Copernicus, Galvani, Guericke and Priestley — quite an eminent list. Yet this again fits with what seems to be becoming established about the genetic origin of diseases such as breast cancer. The majority of cases of these diseases are not genetically linked, but a significant minority are. People of eminent abilities arise in families of normal ability, but they appear also in clusters with others of eminent ability, and the clusters probably have a common genetic origin.

Fortunately the world is still a considerable way from the development of genetic engineering which would allow practical uses to be made of this knowledge. Perhaps in a year or two the genetic variations which predispose people to breast or bowel cancer will have been fully identified; perhaps in a decade or two after that the genetic variations — they are bound to be complex — which provide high musical talent will have been mapped. Perhaps in due course scientists will be able to splice these genes into those of an otherwise normal family. We might then be able to breed another family of Bachs, not perhaps with the transcendent genius of Johann Sebastian, but at least with the ability of lesser members of the family.

The musical and mathematical abilities do look very specific. My American grandfather, Daniel Warren, was an instant calculator in the late 19th century, when that gift was more valuable than it would be now. He once performed a commercial calculation in a few minutes which it took a team of men a fortnight to check. Unfortunately I did not inherit even a trace of his gift. But Galton offers a more profound challenge than the possibility of engineering the genetic transmission of such specific abilities. He shows that more general intellectual abilities also appear in genetic clusters, as they have in the great Cambridge families of Darwin, Keynes and Butler, or in some political families, such as the Churchills or the Pitts.

Such general intellectual powers are unlikely to turn on one or even a few differences in DNA. But there could be key triggers to the development of the higher intellectual powers. In 100 years' time, we may be able to produce a pool of people of exceptional general talent, from which some of pre-eminent talent will come. The narrower and more specific the talent, the more likely it is to depend on a limited number of genes and therefore to be replicable — it might well be easier to multiply mathematicians than philosophers. I do not think I should care to have been part of such an experiment.

Out of tune with Europe

Britain badly needs to win friends, says

Peter Riddell



Michael Heseltine yesterday unintentionally summed up the British ambivalence over Europe. Britain, he said, had to avoid being the club bore of Europe, "sitting just inside the door moaning". His target was the media, but the remark applies as much to his own colleagues. Britain's leaders just cannot strike the right note, and much of the fault lies with Westminster politicians.

Britain's relations with Europe are in a messy limbo. The end of the Maastricht saga has left us an uneasy participant in what is now the European Union. As the arguments during the European Council in Brussels showed, Britain's efforts are mainly devoted to damage limitation. There are many flaws in the operations and institutions of the EU. But Britain has failed to make the best of its opportunities. Naïve attempts to ease apart the Franco-German axis, cosying up first to Bonn and then to Paris, have not worked. In the end, the German Chancellor will always back the French President, and vice versa, as has been shown again by the promise to aid French farmers hit by any Gatt agreement. British claims that budgetary guidelines will not be breached are an assertion of hope over experience.

Over the past couple of weeks, for instance, British ministers have veered sharply in their comments about the White Paper on competitiveness and unemployment from Jacques Delors. Initially, ministers denounced it strongly, but at the Brussels summit the tone was more conciliatory. After most other European leaders backed the thrust of the paper, the Prime Minister accepted that it had "some very good elements". The summit also approved limited borrowing for public works, even though the controversial proposal for the commission to issue "Union" bonds was remitted to finance ministers for further work after German and British opposition. This prompted the less than tactful Kenneth Clarke to talk triumphantly of "filleting" the paper. The Chancellor's style can be more Thatcherite than his pro-European record might suggest. British ministers also pointed to the impact of their thinking on the final version of the paper which dropped some of the more ambitious expansionist ideas and emphasised labour market flexibility and supply-side reforms.

That episode has symbolised the British dilemma. This is partly a question of style, Continental idealism versus British empiricism. While other European leaders begin with general goals and then express their reservations, the British start the other way round, noting their doubts and then negotiating. Ministers often complain that their opposite numbers back some grand new initiative at a meeting, than come round privately to say how much they agree with British qualifications. Being right is not necessarily the way to win political friends.

The contrast also reflects Mr Major's predicament. He has sought to have better relations with the rest of Europe than in the late Thatcher era, but domestic political pressures have pushed his language in a Eurosceptic direction. Take, for instance, the shift between his late April speech stressing the advantages of European involvement and the more sceptical tone of his article in *The Economist* of late September. The contrast caused confusion both at Westminster and in European capitals. Ministers make strongly anti-Delors remarks to unite the Tory party, but then make compromises which can seem like retreats. The effect is negative, unnecessarily so since Britain can point to the achievement of many aims, such as creating a genuine single market, agreement on subsidiarity as a guiding principle, and enlargement.

Westminster politicians are also far less attuned to Europe than both their counterparts elsewhere and other British institutions. Leaders of industry, trade unions and local government are all far more aware of the way Europe operates than are members of the Commons. Decisions from Brussels are for many already as important as, if not more important than, those from Westminster.

Members of the Commons alternate between ignoring the European Parliament and being jealous of it. MEPs are treated like aliens at Westminster. The feeling is in part reciprocated. Increasingly, there are different career routes. Whereas initially there was some overlap, as there is in the rest of Europe, it is now accepted that MEPs who become MPs should not stand again for Strasbourg. Moreover, fewer are moving across. No Tory MEPs became MPs in April 1992, and only four Labour ones did. Members of both parliaments tend to become prisoners of their respective institutions' attitudes. Many Tory MEPs have become divorced from the views of Tory MPs in having a self-consciously European vision. There has, for instance, been wrangling on the party group preparing the Tory manifesto for next June's European elections, about references to federalism. Most of the MEPs do not regard the term as synonymous with centralism, as MPs do. The likely compromise will refer to opposition to "a federal European state".

As Vernon Bogdanor, reader in government at Oxford, warned in a Royal Society of Arts lecture last Wednesday, the Westminster Parliament has to stop treating European issues as distinct from other policies. Instead of commenting after proposals have been prepared and discussed by ministers, the Commons needs to get involved earlier through its select committees when plans are being prepared by the Brussels Commission. That would involve closer co-operation between MPs and MEPs. Members of the Commons "must come to appreciate that Westminster and Strasbourg are complementary rather than competitive institutions. This means sharing power with the European Parliament." An acceptance of power sharing is natural to many other European governments which are multi-party coalitions of one kind or another.

The British Government can claim that opinion is moving in its direction on key issues such as centralism and competitiveness. It does win important tactical battles in Europe. But these are almost always defensive engagements. Britain is still seen as an awkward and reluctant outsider. Britain, to reverse Mr Major's famous phrase of early 1991, is still not at the heart of Europe.

Sweet Prince

THE PRINCE of Wales certainly appears to be keeping all the "will-he, won't-he be King" musings in perspective. Last Thursday — before ministers began rallying around him — he hosted a reception at St James's Palace for the British Friends of Gdansk Theatre Foundation.

With the Prince's future a matter of intense public debate, there was scope for giggling and red faces among the 100 guests as Emma Thompson and Alan Rickman performed extracts from *Hamlet*, *All's Well That Ends Well* and *Romeo and Juliet*. Instead, the Prince of Wales lightened the atmosphere — and revealed his own mood — by parodying the Bard. Opening the proceedings, he quipped: "There is a prince to see, but not a monarch to behold."

Rather than seeing his observation as prophetic, his guests insist he was camping up the opening speech in *Henry V*:

A kingdom for a stage,
princes to act
And monarchs to behold the
swelling scene

"He was clearly in a good mood," reports the theatre critic Claudia Woolgar. "He was speaking tongue-in-cheek and it brought the house down. It was very much him turning around and saying to the press that he will not be beaten out by them."

Shakespeare is full of apt quotations about the fate of princes — most of them salutary. But perhaps his friends would choose something from *Henry VI*:

God keep the prince from all
the pack of you

Mad world

THOSE who thought the BBC World Service provided a rare haven of sanity away from the paranoid madhouses of Broadcasting House and Television Centre are sadly mistaken. After the news that Tony Hall, managing director of BBC news and current affairs, was offering a counselling service for battle-frayed employees, comes word that the World Service is also offering sessions on the couch.

Already about 6 per cent of the staff are in therapy, which probably says more about the strains caused by the Beeb's legendary in-fighting than the lunacy of employees. A spokesman, however, is keen to emphasise the positive side. "Obviously it is all about helping staff perform better. It is



being enormously successful. The main problems are relationships and bereavements. Problems with work, actually, come quite low on the list."

● *Life is not always grim at the Beeb. Its monitoring unit picked up a news report from the Polish television station Polonia about a housewife buying and plucking a chicken. To her horror, it leapt into life, said the newscaster. Feeling guilty, she decided to set it free, but first dressed the now featherless bird in baby clothes. It thereupon ran across the road in front of a car. The motorist, fearing it was a baby, swerved into a tree. "Fortunately nobody was hurt," viewers were informed.*

DIARY

Heir piece

FROM his earliest days as an MP, Michael Portillo has pursued a careful strategy while swiftly ascending the political ladder. Having seen the demise of colleagues who were dubbed "heirs apparent" too early (remember John Moore?), he deliberately kept a low profile. He was once proud to score zilch in "Who is this minister?" polls. But, possibly with his final goal in sight, no more.

The Spanish-blooded Portillo's Christmas card features the said Treasury minister dressed as a matador slaying a raging bull called PSBR. Then there is next month's dinner held by Baroness Thatcher as president of the Conservative Way Forward for those remaining true to her faith. The speaker is regarded as her ladyship's chosen one. This year it will be M. Portillo.

Thatcher used to have another heir apparent. Now what was his name? Nice man, rather grey.

● *Offa, David Blunkett's guide dog, will continue to pad the corridors of power a little while longer, because his replacement has disgraced himself. The new dog, due to take over at Christmas, bears a striking resemblance to the dark-haired alsatian-retriever cross Offa — the Labour MP's companion of six years. But Blunkett admits: "He did fail. I think Offa had a word in his ear. He must have told him what a dog's life he was going to lead and he took off after a cat."*

Cold shouldered

POOR Captain Oates. As if dying in an Antarctic blizzard at 32 was not enough, now his house in Wandsworth is to be demolished. A planning application submitted to the borough council in south London outlines a scheme to raze the house and build a nursing home.

Despite protestations from the architect, Roger Dean-Walker, that the blue plaque will be kept and the new building called The Lawrence Oates Nursing Home, locals are outraged at the treatment of every schoolboy's hero. Beryl Jeffery, chairman of Wandsworth Conservation Area Advisory Committee, says: "A lot of people here get emotional about it. He is a local hero."

Similarly outraged is the novelist Beryl Bainbridge, whose book *The Birthday Boys* told of Captain Scott's ill-fated 1912 expedition, which saw Oates walk to his death with the immortal words, "I'm just going outside and I may be some time". She says: "They were supermen and it will be a tragedy if the house is pulled down. The odd thing was that Oates was a delicate boy — he was allowed to wear a cardigan when he was at Eton — and he managed to walk to the South Pole. And there's Ranulph Fiennes complaining about how hard it is — and he's got planes buzzing around overhead."



● *Is Harrods feeling the pinch? Valued customers used to seeing the store's traditional green carriage pulled by two huge Friesian horses draw up outside their home will soon notice the equipage has shrunk. Pippin and Rasputin, two black Shetland ponies measuring 33in and 35in respectively, will help out their larger equine cousins from the new year. Considerately, their carriage will also be a third of the size. The patter of tiny hooves will first be heard on January 9 at the London taxi drivers' customary bash for 600 deprived children.*

هذا من الأصل

ON THE VOLCANO'S EDGE

In Israel's volatile condition, ten days is a long time

Yassir Arafat, the leader of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation, could hardly bring grimmer tidings to London when he makes his first official visit tomorrow. The failure of yesterday's talks in Cairo means that today's deadline for beginning the transfer of authority from Israel's military government and civil administration to "authorised Palestinians" has been missed. Rejectionists on both sides will be jubilant.

December 13 may have been understood by both sides as nothing more than the start in the patchwork and probably rancorous process of proving that Israelis and Palestinians can live together as neighbours. Israel has always insisted that the April 13th deadline for completing Israel's withdrawal from Gaza and the Jericho area was a far more significant test of its *bona fides*. It has held out for a properly formulated, detailed agreement covering every aspect of the transfer to limited Palestinian self-rule, saying that it would be irresponsible to go ahead this week on the basis of incomplete arrangements open to misinterpretation.

There is plenty of evidence that Hamas and Islamic Jihad are ready to exploit any vacuum of authority. But today's deadline had enormous symbolic importance. It was the first of a series of dates, set out in last September's historic "declaration of principles" between Israel and the PLO, supposedly culminating in a permanent settlement in December 1998. The two sides will not even meet again for ten days — a long time in Israel's volatile state, but a very short time to overcome obstacles that have defeated the negotiating teams for the past two months. The sticking points, Mr Rabin's spokesman confirmed yesterday, remain the control of border crossings between Gaza and Egypt and Jericho and Jordan, the size of the Jericho area, and security arrangements for Jewish settlements in Gaza.

The Palestinian leadership, divided on almost every other count, is convinced that delay will render the transition to Palestinian self-rule in Gaza and Jericho even more dangerous that it was always going to be. In Cairo Faisal al-Husseini, the veteran Palestinian negotiator, argued passionately before the meeting began that unless both sides were able to prove that things were going to change on the ground, "the whole region will be on the brink of a volcano". Mr Arafat's standing within the PLO leadership and among Palestinians has been steadily falling since September: hence his contention that today's deadline was sacred.

The problems are not, however, confined to the diplomatic table. As *The Times* reports today, the Palestinians in Jericho are woefully unprepared to take over. The escalation of violence since September, which has cost nearly 60 Palestinian and Israeli lives, has seriously weakened popular trust in the healing power of diplomacy. Israel has been forced to increase its military presence in the occupied territories, where more troops are currently deployed than since the beginning of the intifada.

If either radical Palestinians or hardline Jewish settlers exploit this grave setback to inflame passions further, Israel is certain to respond forcefully. But Mr Arafat, with only small numbers of trained Palestinian police available, will face vastly greater difficulties in controlling the streets once the handover starts. His best defence against the rejectionists, who will denounce any deal he strikes, will be to make the Palestinian councils properly accountable. If his discomfiture makes him readier to listen to West Bank liberals such as Mrs Hanan Ashrawi, that will be a gain to set against this setback.

The escalating violence also puts heavy pressures on Mr Rabin's government. Tensions within Israel are so high that President Ezer Weizman aired last week the possibility of a government of national unity — a proposal, given the opposition Likud's hardening stance, that hardly seems compatible with a deal. Mr Rabin said yesterday that he had no doubt that agreement would be reached, given "a little bit more time". He knows that little more is available.

SILENCE OF THE CHILDREN

The Times Christmas appeal for those with impaired speech

This is the age of communication. News is flashed constantly and instantaneously around the world. In post-industrial societies there is already an *embarras de richesses*, or at any rate of *bagatelles*, in the choice of television channels at any moment of the day and night; on the other side of the world, workers in the paddy fields listen to the latest pop songs on their transistor radios. In the open-ended process by which cave paintings gave way to hieroglyphs, to manuscript and then printing, so this digital age is going to put communication at the finger tips of the whole world.

Except for those locked away in their private rooms of silence. Inability to communicate has been a handicap since the Tower of Babel, but it is an even crueller and more conspicuous disadvantage in this age of mass communication. That is why *The Times* has decided to make a Christmas appeal for children with impaired speech. They are excluded from the master technological and social movement of the age.

At least 500,000 children with normal hearing in the United Kingdom, one in 20, have language disorders. Of these at least 7,000 will carry their burden into adulthood. The numbers become much higher if they are extended to include those impeded from making themselves understood by mental or physical disabilities such as being born deaf.

In the past people with language difficulties were written off early as bad-tempered or unsociable, inarticulate, recluse or even mad. Lacking proficiency in man's unique social gift of speech, they were condemned to uncertain futures in society, unable to form relationships, to work, to play, or even to lead useful or happy lives. Today more than ever before, speech is one of the defining qualities of man. But difficulty with speech is not generally recognised as a major handicap.

Recent work in the new science of speech therapy, discoveries in medicine, and the use of surgical devices such as grommets to restore hearing, mean that many more of these children can be rescued early from their isolation. The Association for All Speech Impaired Children (Afasic) campaigns and lobbies for all children with speech and language difficulties, supports research, and runs support group and information services for their families.

Money sent to Afasic with the coupon on page 8 will be used to buy equipment, teaching aids and computer software, and to campaign on behalf of the silent children. The computer revolution, which has shown up the loneliness of those unable to communicate in the age of communication, has also brought in new ways of treating language and speech difficulties.

Puritans call this a selfish and materialistic age. But modern appeals, spread by the immediacy of mass communication, suggest that there is wider and more generous sympathy for the unfortunate than ever before. That is why *The Times* is appealing on behalf of the children without words. They are the silent and inarticulate ones, left out by this new age. But the age of communication is also discovering miraculous new ways of bringing them in out of their silence and frustration.

DEFENDING HANSARD

Access to parliamentary reports has never been more important

Hansard, the daily report of parliamentary proceedings, is one of the discreet pillars of the Westminster system. Founded 190 years ago by William Cobbett as an unofficial report of the day's political business, the publication was soon taken over by his printer Thomas Curzon Hansard, and became part of the staple diet of the British political class. So great did its capacity to unsettle the powerful become that Gladstone never allowed a copy in his house at Hawarden. Regrettably, however, its role in the life of the nation has been much diminished in recent years.

In 1980, *Hansard*'s Commons reports had a daily sale of more than 6,000; today, a circulation of 3,500 is typical. This decline is understandable: since 1979, the price has risen in real terms, from 49p to £7.50. As libraries have struggled to reduce costs, the circulation of Hansard outside Parliament, embassies, law firms and lobbyists' offices has become negligible. Few ordinary citizens now have access to the full parliamentary speeches of their elected representatives.

Television and newspaper coverage of Parliament is not be confused with the separate function of Hansard. Its distinct purpose is to provide a complete, documentary record of proceedings. Public access to detailed records of Parliament should still be one of the checks and balances of the unwritten constitution.

This is truer than it was in 1909 when the government took over the production of *Hansard*. The crucial *Pepper* v. *Hart* ruling by the Law Lords last year established the principle that courts could consult *Hansard* for guidance on the intentions of lawmakers where the text of a statute was ambiguous. Already this principle is saving time in the courts and preventing vexatious litigation based on narrow points of interpretation. The legal significance of *Hansard* has been transformed, therefore, at a time when its general availability is declining rapidly.

The reductions in HMSO production costs achieved since the Stationery Office became a semi-independent agency should help to halt the rise of the report's cover price. Modernisation of *Hansard*'s old-fashioned operating methods would cut its overheads. It should also be possible eventually for some libraries to receive its daily reports more cheaply by computer.

Welcome as such changes would be, however, the root of *Hansard*'s problems is financial, not technological. The withdrawal of its subsidy since 1983 has forced the escalation of price and the narrowing of readership. In its transfer of classified files to the Public Record Office and freedom of information proposals, the government has shown it is serious about its openness initiative. But public access to parliamentary information is at least as important as access to personal files or historical records. This policy will not be cost-free. Support for *Hansard* should be high in ministers' priorities when they finally cut the cake.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Judges' discretion on life sentences

From Mr Patrick O'Brien

Sir, Lord Lane's article of December 7, "Why judges know best", claiming the monopoly of sentencing for the Bench, smacks of complacency. There is an obvious deficiency in our whole criminal justice system as it is applied to our now multicultural society.

The rate of crime is too high and rising, the rate of conviction too low and falling. The rate of recidivism shows that the prison service needs to be reorganised to instil habits of work rather than to induct offenders into a criminal freemasonry.

If the common law is to survive and not be replaced by some more efficient system, then it is time we read articles in which the Bench gave us their suggestions for reform, and that its members addressed the concerns of citizens who are being murdered, robbed and swindled by criminals, few of whom are convicted and even fewer are reformed.

Ensuring that a hundred criminals go free rather than seeing an innocent man convicted is not enough. Blaming the police or the Director of Public Prosecutions has its limitations.

Yours truly,
PATRICK O'BRIEN,
2 Evening Glade, Ferndown, Dorset.
December 8.

From His Honour Judge Owen Stable, QC

Sir, There are a great many cases of stabbings in the court where I sit. Twenty years ago many of them would have resulted in the death of the victim and a conviction for murder.

Today, thanks solely to a combination of the efficiency of the ambulance service and the advances in modern surgery, and unconnected with the actions of the stabber, most result in the victim's recovery and the stabber's conviction for wounding with intent to cause grevious bodily harm, which carries the same maximum sentence as murder.

A hold-up of the ambulance or a millimetre in the depth of the wound may make the difference between life and death. The culpability of the stabber may be greater in a stabbing which ends in the victim's recovery than in one which proves fatal. To give the judge no option in the less culpable case but to give him a wide discretion in the more culpable, to my mind, is absurd.

I believe that Lord Lane's views are sound and widely shared.

Yours truly,
OWEN STABLE,
The Crown Court at Snaresbrook,
75 Hollybush Hill, Snaresbrook, E11.
December 7.

From Mr Graham Vance

Sir, Lord Lane asserts that it would be "startling" if the length of a life sentence were to be determined by what the Home Secretary regards as how society as a whole would view the prisoner's release. I suggest, however, that it is important that a politician continues to be the arbiter of the public mood, since his job, unlike the judge's, depends upon judging this mood correctly.

I believe that the vast but silent majority in this country are looking for retribution above rehabilitation and that this fact has not yet been grasped by the judiciary.

Lord Lane argues, correctly in my view, that not all murderers should have the same life sentence imposed due to the different nature of each act. However, if we start to categorise murders with different fixed terms, we may be presenting the enterprising would-be murderer with a menu together with a price list.

The public mood demands that life should mean life for some of the vile murders we have witnessed recently, and a politician will be more ready to accept this than any judge. If powers are to be taken from the legislature then the judiciary should be willing, in return, to become more accountable to the public for its decisions.

Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM VANCE,
79 Huron Road, Tooting Bec, SW17.

Chorus of approval

From Mr W. F. Cosker

Sir, How much more refreshing it is to read a third leader about dawn choruses, blithe spirits and the activities of the RSPB (December 3) than that depressing and pervasive topic, the PSBR. Fifty billion times more refreshing, in truth.

Yours gratefully,
W. F. COSKER,
16 Rock Road,
Peterborough, Cambridgeshire.
December 3.

Chocolate role

From Mr J. G. Davies

Sir, If Mr Michael Peachey (letter, December 6) is relying on chocolate-vending machines at railway stations for survival then he is in dire straits. Every long-term long-distance commuter knows that the real purpose of these machines is to swallow money, not to disgorge chocolate.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN DAVIES,
83 Bassett Green Close, Bassett,
Southampton, Hampshire.
December 6.

Balance and priorities in museums

From Lord Armstrong of Ilminster

Sir, You recently published a leading article ("Art for whose sake?", November 13) in response to the Museums and Galleries Commission's "gloomy view", expressed in the annual report, of staff morale and money shortages. All who cherish the nation's museums and galleries should read, mark, learn and inwardly digest that article.

You wrote of the "philosophical conflict" between the duty to attract and educate a general audience and the need to provide a base for academic research, and you admonished us that this conflict urgently needs to be resolved, and the dual role of museums amicably accepted.

It would be easier to arrive at an amicable resolution if the issues were not so needlessly polarised — and personalised — as they have become.

The main tasks of any national museum or gallery are to provide custody and care for its collections, enjoyment and education for its visitors, and a sound basis of scholarship and research among its curators. These are not alternatives to choose between; each complements and sustains the others.

The provision of care for the collections and enlightenment for the visitor must be founded upon a knowledge of the objects, their origins and their history, and this requires sound scholarship and continuing research on the part of the curatorial staff.

But an institution which concentrated upon the management of its collections and the pursuit of knowledge by its curators as if the enjoyment and enlightenment of the general visitor were merely incidental and peripheral would be failing adequately to fulfil an important part of its duty.

Thus those who are responsible for museums and galleries must seek constantly to improve the care, management and conservation of their collections, to attract and educate visitors by improving the quality of display and by extending public awareness of the richness of the collections, and to sustain and develop object-based scholarship and research.

These tasks are complementary. It is a matter of balance and priorities: there is no conflict of principles, though there are competing demands upon resources and therefore priority choices to be made.

All the national museums and galleries would of course like to be able to do more; as things are, we all do our best, within the funding and resource constraints to which we are subject, to strike a sensible balance between the various tasks according to the needs and circumstances of our particular institution.

Yours faithfully,
ARMSTRONG of ILMINSTER
(Chairman, Board of Trustees),
Victoria & Albert Museum,
South Kensington,
London SW7 2RL.
December 9.

Medical school move

From Sir Christopher Bland and Mr Lawrence Banks

Sir, On December 8 you reported that the Government may have already decided to move the Royal Postgraduate Medical School from Hammersmith Hospital to Charing Cross Hospital in Fulham, despite the fact that the location study steering group, set up at the Department of Health's request to analyse the competing claims of the two sites has yet to have its final and most important meeting. If this decision is correctly reported, it will rank high amongst the many ministerial errors that have bedevilled London and British medicine since the war.

On all the available evidence Hammersmith is the right site for the proposed West London Centre. It is the cheapest in capital and revenue terms; it will produce the least disruption to research: it is in the right place (Charing Cross is too close to Chelsea/Westminster); it can be implemented within three years (compared with five to six years for Charing Cross).

Over £70 million has been invested in the site in the last seven years. The first filmless X-ray system in the country is about to go live at a cost of £20 million. The Medical Research Council's £14 million Clinical Research Institute building is within months of completion, as is Hammer Cancer's new £5 million treatment and research centre.

The RPMS at Hammersmith has been consistently rated as one of the UK's relatively few world-class research institutions. To jeopardise its strength, and to undermine its present and future contribution to clinical research, would be wrong.

The proposed West London Centre is necessary, and will strengthen both research and service — but only if it is located on the right site.

Yours sincerely,
CHRISTOPHER BLAND
(Chairman, Hammersmith & Queen Charlotte's Special Health Authority).
LAWRENCE BANKS
(Chairman, Royal Postgraduate Medical School),
Du Cane Road, Hammersmith, W12.

Church and morality

From the Reverend Dr Graham A. Hodge

Sir, Janet Daley's excellent highlighting (December 2) of the "failure" of the Church to promote individual morality is very unfair to parish priests. All over the land priests emphasise the orthodox Christian views and attack all that is evil and against God's laws.

No reward or credit is asked, or expected, for this; it is the "job", and precious little result can be assumed to be forthcoming, with excuses and "out-clauses" so easily obtainable from our bishops, who believe that their dioceses, and the media, hang on their every word.

The reports from working parties of the General Synod, and often the pathetically liberal views of some diocesan bishops, are the last things most thinking parochial clergy will ever read.

Truly yours,
G. A. HODGE,
The Rectory, Farringdon,
Alton, Hampshire.
December 2.

From Dom Antony Sutch

Sir, I beg to inform Janet Daley that the Church is constituted of all baptised persons, not just clerics. Several are politicians and newspaper and media commentators, of whom more notice is taken by the public than of clerics. The world in which we live is overwhelmingly secular so that few hear the sermons, note the articles or desire to seek out the words of Christians. There are many thousands of Christians in schools, homes and in daily lives preaching and promoting individual morality.

In a clamorous world there is, I assure Mrs Daley, the "still small voice" constantly proclaiming the right and the good. "He who has ears to hear, let him hear" is a challenge, not a lobby call.

Faithfully,
ANTONY SUTCH,
Downside School,
Stratton-on-the-Fosse,
Bath, Avon.

From Rear Admiral Conrad Jenkin

Sir, Recent correspondents have discussed the Church and the teaching of morals (letters, November 30; December 1, 2). An MP knows when some issue or other has really got under the skin of his constituents because his postbag fills up with furious letters on the subject.

Could our bishops please tell us what proportions of their postbags are from people who feel badly let down by the Church?

Yours sincerely,
CONRAD JENKIN,
Knapsyard House, West Meon,
Petersfield, Hampshire.

Entente cordiale

From Colonel A. L. Mallinson

Sir, You report (Diary, December 3) that, though Waterloo is still fresh in the minds of some of its members, the Cavalry and Guards Club is about to arrange reciprocal membership with a French club for the first time in its history.

I can confirm that, at least as far as the French army is concerned, there is complete reconciliation. For the Anglo-French army staff talks this year I arranged for the concluding dinner to be held in the club's Waterloo Room. We dined against the backdrop of a particularly vivid painting of the fighting at Hougoumont Farm, with Wellington's portrait on the menu cards and English wine served throughout.

Afterwards the French general said he hoped they could dine there again, adding that, since it was the arrival of the Prussians on the field at the eleventh hour that saved Wellington, next time perhaps a painting of Marshal Blücher could be brought in with the coffee.

Yours etc,
ALLAN MALLINSON,
Cavalry and Guards Club,
127 Piccadilly, W1.
December 3.

Value for TV money

From Lieutenant Colonel R. M. Porter

Sir, One of Michael Ashenden's contentions (letter, December 2) is that BBC TV channels occasionally transmit pornography. Yes, but so do the commercial channels with at least the same insensitivity.

More specifically, I take issue with him about financing. So long as BBC TV maintains high standards the licence fee is surely more acceptable than the comparable premiums extracted from us when we buy television-advertised products. Paying such mark-ups is unavoidable whether one has a television set or not.

Quite apart from such arguments, thank goodness for video-recorders: fast-forwarding minimises the disruption of programmes by commercials. Long live BBC TV!

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT PORTER,
The Croft, Flitwick Road,
Maulden, Bedfordshire.
December 7.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

Clichés that make our hearts sink

From Mrs Diana Quinney

Sir, *If I may say so*, Lord Cudlipp ("Ministers sending us all to sleep?", letter, December 6) omits a further phrase in constant use by those in public life whose aim must be to bore us into complete apathy. It is all the more infuriating because we are not given the opportunity to say: "No, you may not!"

Yours faithfully,
DIANA QUINNEY,
38 East Approach Drive,
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.
December 6.

From Mr P. G. Hillman

Sir, How one sympathises with Lord Cudlipp. In my office we have a manager who likes to be "verballed" through files rather than told about them. A suggestion will either be *run up the flag-pole to see who salutes it*, or *put on the train to Victoria and see where it gets off*. Problems are *played long* in the hope that they will go away, or are *put on the back burner*.

Yours *here on in*,
P. G. HILLMAN,
19 St Helier Close,
Crawley, West Sussex.
December 6.

From Mr Michael Beeby

Sir, Lord Cudlipp has paraded a profusion of clichés *with one hand tied behind his back* and *without shooting himself in the foot*; but he is perhaps *giving the wrong signal* to the *chattering classes*, who may well *go OTT* in attempting to emulate his collection.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL BEEBY,
6 Beaver Close, Fishbourne,
Chichester, West Sussex.
December 6.

From Mr Barry Colgate

Sir, Would Lord Cudlipp please add to his list *a kick in the teeth; a slap in the face*; and *the country/my members/my party are outraged/up in arms*?

Yours faithfully,
BARRY COLGATE,
Brew House, Ewhurst Green,
Ewhurst, Surrey.
December 7.

From Mr Tom Baistow

Sir, Clichés have been the lazy thinker's all-purpose friend since long before Andrew Lang, the Scottish writer and translator, imported the word from France in the December 1892 issue of *Longman's Magazine*; but if communicators continue to *go down the road* of linguistic Lego, English will end up as a pre-cooked pidgin.

Yours faithfully,
TOM BAISTOW,
Savile Club,
69 Brook Street, W1.
December 6.

Ban on Christmas

From Mr M. D. Berkson

Sir, As a Jew, I am distressed and saddened by public treatment of Christmas as a winter jollification rather than a religious celebration. Birmingham Council's designation of civic decorations as "festive lights" and elimination of religious symbols (report, December 8) may have been intended to spare minorities' feelings but I find it patronising and therefore somewhat hurtful.

Yours faithfully,
M. D. BERKSON,
55 Maze Green Road,
Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire.
December 9.

Much dearer by post

From Sir Colin Turner

Sir, The Post Office increased first and second-class letter rates by 1p in November but there have been massive increases in the cost of airmailing small packets and printed papers.

I edit a small magazine and airmail it twice a year around the world. It weighs just under 60g. For Zone 1 (outside Europe) the rate has risen from 67p to £1.01 (50.7 per cent), and for Zone 2 (distant areas of Asia and the Pacific) from 76p to £1.13 (48.68 per cent). For Europe it has gone up from 40p to 58p for printed papers only (45 per cent more). All this has added over £125 to the costs of each issue.

What justification can there be for these massive increases?

Yours sincerely,
COLIN TURNER,
The Thatched House, Balfour Road,
West Runton, Norfolk.

Royal riposte

From Sir Christopher Lawrence-Jones

Sir, Lord Rees-Mogg (article, December 2) quotes the derogatory lines about Charles II — "He never said a foolish thing, Nor ever did a wise one" — but makes no mention of the King's splendid riposte:

"This is very true: for my words are my own, and my actions are my ministers'."

Yours faithfully,
C. LAWRENCE-JONES,
15 Waterside Point,
Anhalt Road, SW11.

COURT CIRCULAR

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE

December 11: The Duchess of Kent, Patron, Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund, this evening attended a reception for the Macmillan Nurse Appeal at Hillsborough Castle, County Down and was met on arrival by the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland (Sir Patrick Mayhew) and Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for County Down (Colonel William Brownlow).

Her Royal Highness later attended the 250th Anniversary performance of Handel's Messiah at St. Anne's Cathedral, Belfast and was met on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for the City of Belfast (Colonel Elliott Wilson). Mrs Julian Tomkins and Mr Nicolas Adamson were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE

December 12: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, President, the Scottish Children's League, was present this evening at the "Fantasy Ball", held in aid of the League's Centenary Appeal, at the Tramway Theatre, Glasgow.

Her Royal Highness was received by Councillor Robert Gray (Vice Lord Lieutenant of the City of Glasgow).

The Lady Glenconner was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE

December 12: The Duchess of Kent this morning attended a service at Hillsborough Parish Church, County Down, Northern Ireland.

Mrs Julian Tomkins and Mr Nicolas Adamson were in attendance.

Today's royal engagements

The Prince of Wales, as President of The Prince's Youth Business Trust, will visit Willow Hall, Unit 6, Cinderhill Industrial Estate, Weston Coyney Road, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent, at 10.55; will visit Woodpecker Pine, 3 Ellison Street, Wolstanton, Newcastle-under-Lyme, at 11.35; and, as President of Business in the Community, will visit the Railway Enterprise Centre, Shelton New Road, Stoke-on-Trent, at noon.

The Duchess of Gloucester will attend the Guild of Freemen of the City of London's dinner at Guildhall at 7.15.

Appointments

Overseas Development Administration

The Prime Minister, with the agreement of the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary and the Minister for Overseas Development, has approved the appointment of Mr John Vereker, at present a Deputy Secretary in the Department for Education, as Permanent Secretary (Grade 1A) in the Overseas Development Administration in succession to Mr Tim Lankester, whose appointment as Permanent Secretary, Department for Education, has already been announced. The appointment will take effect on February 1, 1994.

Lord Strathnaver

The Queen has approved the appointment of Lord Strathnaver to be Vice Lord Lieutenant of Sutherland.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr M.R. Mason and Miss L.F.M. Cooper

The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr and Mrs A.R. Mason, of Lostock, Bolton, and Laraine, daughter of Mrs F. Cooper and the late Mr W.G. Cooper, of Woolton, Liverpool.

Mr N.J. Ring and Miss A.S. Matthews

The engagement is announced between Nicholas, youngest son of Brian and Marion Ring, of London, and Alexia, elder daughter of Christopher de C. Matthews, of Rome, Italy, and Sarah Langton-Lockton, of London.

Mr C.P. Stratton and Miss F.A. Watson Williams

The engagement is announced between Christopher Philip, son of Mr and Mrs David Stratton, of Monmouth, and Felicity Ann, elder daughter of the Rev and Mrs Richard Watson Williams, of Temple Balsall.

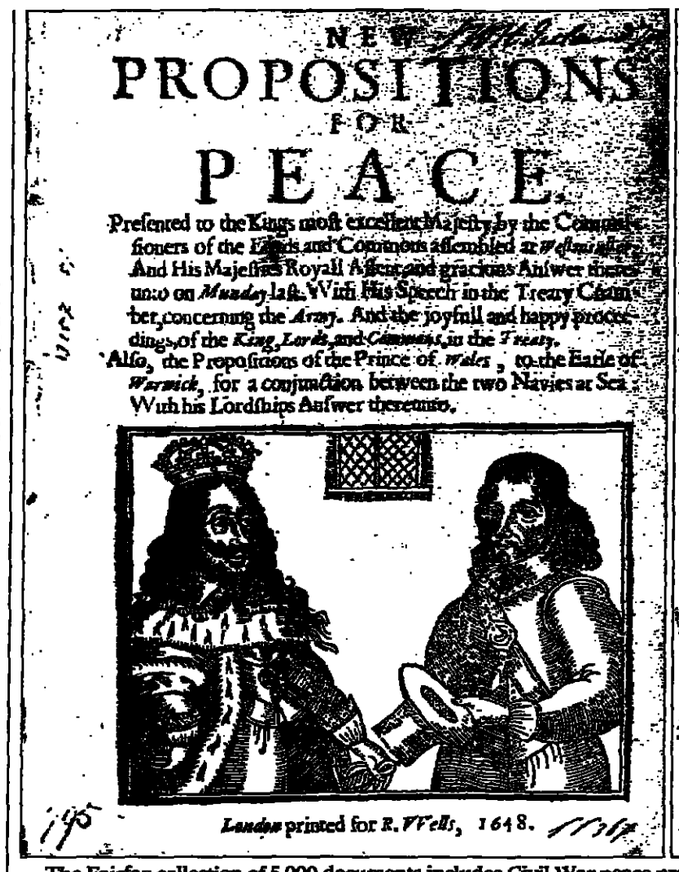
Mr D.A.R. Tilley and Miss C.E.C.A. Thomson

The engagement is announced between David, elder son of Mr and Mrs Edward Tilley, of High Wycombe, and Catherine, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Thomson, of Maidenhead.

Memorial service

Mr S. James Saunders

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of S. James (Beaker) Saunders, TD, FCA, FRAM, will be held on Tuesday, December 14, at noon at Saint George's, Hanover Square, London, W1.





The Fairfax collection of 5,000 documents includes Civil War peace proposals and a contemporary portrait of General Sir Thomas Fairfax

England's first 'newspapers' go on sale

BY JIM MCCUE

WHAT are in effect the first newspapers will be auctioned tomorrow, when the largest collection of Civil War pamphlets is offered for sale at Sotheby's.

The Fairfax family library and archive comprises more than 5,000 pamphlets, tracts and letters. They include documents through which the progress of the war and the debates it engendered can be charted week by week and sometimes day by day.

Printing was still subject to licensing, which aimed to prevent dissemination of heresy and treason. But newsbooks such as *The Moderate Intelligencer* — of which all but two of the 237 issues are in the collection — entrenched the practice of free printing.

This came about by default, because the government had more urgent business than suppressing the flood of unlicensed publications. As John Goodwin wrote in 1655: "The setting up of Watchmen with authority at the door of the press to keep errors and heresies out of the world is as weak a project and design, as it would be to set a company of armed men about a house to keep darkness out of it in the night season."

It was this breakdown of censorship which established the tradition of freedom of the press, rather than arguments of principle such as Milton's plea that Truth and Falsehood should be left to grapple, for "whoever knew Truth put to the worse in a free and open encounter?"

The collection, built up at the start of this century by the 12th Baron Fairfax, includes accounts of battles, peace proposals by both sides and drafts of documents in which "the People" assert the principles of their sovereignty and liberty: "First, the English nation is a free People, undeniably possessed of liberty in their persons, & of property in their goods ... neither is it in ye power of any persons to force such lawes upon them as they apprehend hurtfull unto them."

The collection is built around the career of General Sir Thomas Fairfax (1612-1671), leader of the Parliamentary New Model Army, victor of Naseby, unreadably dull poet, and one of the prime movers behind the Restoration.

As Cromwell's commander-in-chief, Fairfax — who came from a distinguished military line — was responsible for the defeat of the Royalists in battles and sieges from Bristol to Hull. When the Parliamentarians besieged Oxford in 1646, this dashing cavalryman gave orders that the Bodleian Library be guarded from damage. "He was a lover of learning," wrote the diarist John Aubrey, "and had he not taken this speciall care, that noble library had been wholly destroyed."

Controversially, though, Fairfax, known as Black Tom, refused to endorse the execution of Charles I. An archetypal non-political commander, he did his military duty and then withdrew to Nun Appleton, one of the family seats outside York. Here he devoted himself to his horses, his deer-park, his collection of coins and medals, and his garden.

The poet Andrew Marvell lived on the estate for two years as tutor to Fairfax's young daughter, Mary, and here wrote his contemplative poems "The Garden" and "Upon Appleton House".

He pictures Fairfax inspiring military deference in his garden as he had in the field:

See how the flowers, as at parade,
Under their colours stand displayed:
Each regiment in order grows,
That of the tulip, pink and rose.

In these poems, Marvell portrays an English Eden, a cultivated retreat where the young Mary's virginal qualities have power over nature. Unfortunately, Mary was later ruinously married from this house to Charles II's dissipated favourite, the Duke of Buckingham. This began a decline in the fortunes of the Appleton estate, where there has been a dwelling since before the Norman Conquest.

The house was sold, rebuilt and bastardised and has fallen into neglect. The listed building is now unoccupied.

Marriages

Mr W.M. Amberg and Miss S.J. Forbes

The marriage took place on Saturday at St Michael's, Well, of Mr William Amberg, younger son of Mr and Mrs Michael Amberg, of Ravenstone, Buckinghamshire, and Miss Susie Forbes, daughter of Mr Anthony Forbes, of Wakerley, Rutland, and Mrs Sandy Henderson, of Well, North Yorkshire. The Rev Kester Carruthers officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Georgia Gore Langton, Claire Price, Tabitha Prizeman, Tom Henderson, James Henderson and Jack Rose. Mr William Kendall was best man.

The Master of Gray and the Hon Lucy Elton

The marriage took place on Saturday at St Michael's, Sutton Bonington, Leicestershire, of the Master of Gray, only son of Lord Gray and the late Lady Gray, of Taynuilt, Argyll, to the Hon Lucy Elton, youngest daughter of Lord Elton, of London, and Anne Lady Elton, of Sutton Bonington Hall. The Rev Nicholas Lee officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Emma and Rosalie Peebles and Felix Canetty-Clarke. Mr David Isaac was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride.

Mr P.E.A. de la Guerra and Miss J.M. Renney

The marriage took place on Sunday, December 5, at Trinity Chapel, Cambridge, of Mr Pablo de la Guerra, second son of Mrs S.M. de la Guerra, of Lamberhurst, Kent, to Miss Joyce Renney, only daughter of Mr and Mrs J.W. Renney, of Malvern, Worcestershire. Dr Arnold Browne, Dean of Trinity Chapel, officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Miss Camilla Baldwin and Miss Isabelle Renney. Mr Oliver Jory was best man.

A reception was held at St John's College and the honeymoon is being spent in Thailand.

Mr J.D.B. McGrigor and Miss C. Alun-Jones

The marriage took place on Saturday at the Church of St Lawrence, Effingham, Surrey, of Mr James Drysdale Buchanan McGrigor, elder son of Dr and Mrs Angus McGrigor, of Warningore House, Plumpton, Sussex, to Miss Carella Alun-Jones, eldest daughter of Sir Derek and Lady Alun-Jones, of Effingham. The Rev Alan Hodgetts officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Thomas Alun-Jones, Benjamin Alun-Jones, Camilla Wilson, Ned Sangster, Phoebe Taylor, Oliver Humphreys and Rupert Crookenden. Mr Guy Hayward-Cole was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent in the Phillipines.

Mr A.R. Williams and Mrs A.C. Naldrett

The marriage took place quietly at Richmond Register Office, Surrey, on Friday, December 10, 1993, between Mr Ronnie Williams, OBE, and Mrs Toni Naldrett.

Latest wills

George William Herbert, 7th Earl of Powis, of Marrington Hall, Chirbury, Salop, whose family seat Powis Castle (which contains the Clive Museum) was given to the National Trust in 1952, left estate valued at £593,939 net.

Captain Patrick John Boteler Drury-Lowe, of Locko Park, near Derby, ADC to the Governor-General of South Australia 1955-58 and Joint Master of the Meynell and South Staffordshire Hunt, left estate valued at £4,955,546 net.

Eleanor Ingle, of Melling, Carnforth, Lancashire, left estate valued at £646,478 net. She died intestate.

Mr John Henry Rivett, of London SW6, left estate valued at £521,696 net.

Nature notes

WHEN it is cold out on the water, wildfowl retreat to the banks or seek smaller lakes and ponds. Teal sometimes sit on the lower branches of a willow tree; the drakes whistle softly.

Moorhens stalk about on the grass but rush back to the water when frightened. As they swim off, they jerk up their tails, which have white patches on the underside looking like two flashing rear lights.

Uncommon gulls are blown in from the Atlantic and mingle with the flocks of black-headed gulls. There were several reports last week of ring-billed gulls, an American species like a large common gull, with a black band round its yellow beak.

At the waterside, phragmites reeds are up to 12 ft tall; their feathery purple heads and long leaves all turn away from the wind. The bulrush, or great reed mace, still stands firm, though some of the brown truncheon-like heads are crumbling to seed. Wild



The teal

rosehips are turning squashy and some have turned black. On the bare trees, there are many colourful buds: on lime-trees the leaf buds are red and often on red twigs, while on some sallow trees there are already large, shiny brown catkin buds.

DJM

❑ *The New Times Nature Diary* by Derwent May is based on a year of DJM's Nature Notes, illustrated by Richard Blake (Robson Books, £10.95).

Birthdays today

The Aga Khan, 57; Sir Terence Beckett, former director-general, CBI, 70; Mr Howard Brenton, playwright, 51; General Arnold Brown, former international leader and general, Salvation Army, 80; Lord Bullock, 79; Sir Brian Fall, diplomat, 56; Mr Walter Girven, chief constable, Wiltshire, 55.

Mr Chris Gorringe, chief executive, All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, 48; Miss Anouska Hempel (Lady Weinberg), hotelier and designer, 52; Dr Douglas Latto, chairman, British Safety Council, 80; Mr Robert Lindsay, actor, 44; Professor Sir William McCrea, astronomer, 89; Mr Christopher Plummer, actor, 64; Sir John Pope-Hennessy, professor of fine arts, 80; Sir Humphrey Prideaux, former chairman, Morland and Company, 78; Sir Robin Renwick, diplomat, 56; Mr George Shultz, former American Secretary of State, 73; Sir Laurens van der Post, writer, explorer and conservationist, 87; General Sir Peter Whiteley, 73.

University news

Cambridge
King's College
Elected into an honorary fellowship: Charles Neal Ascherson, journalist and author; member of the college. Elected into an honorary fellowship with effect from November 30, 1993.
Elected into a senior research fellowship (internal): Helen Fay Dowker, BA, PhD.

Oxford
Somerville College
Elections:
To an Ethel E Jones Scholarship in English: Frances Melanie Hardinge, formerly of Ipswich High School.
To a Hughes Scholarship in Law: Antonia Jayne Hardy, formerly of Milford Haven School.
To a Bull Exhibition in Classics: Fiona Ann McPhillips, formerly of Coloma Convent Girls School.
College prizes:
Nicholson Prize for Mathematics: Claudia Beate Wegener, formerly of Staatliches Gymnasium Mainz-Gonsenheim.
Sarah Smithson Prize for Modern Languages: Joanne Clare Cole, formerly of Bournemouth School for Girls; Sarah Jane Maynard, formerly of St Nicholas School.
College Prize for Classics: Rachael Margaret Pallas-Brown, formerly of St Joseph's Convent School; Claudia de Resende Waissbein, formerly of Oxford High School for Girls.

Southampton
Promotions:
Personal chairs: Dr Derek Fletcher, Reader in Chemistry; Dr Bryan Westcott, Reader in Mathematics.
Readerships: Dr Tony Davies, Electrical Engineering; Dr Charles Debattista, Law; Dr Brian Hayden (Chemistry); Dr Rosamund Mitchell (Education); Dr Cecilio Mar-Molinero (Accounting and Management Sciences); Dr Anne Topper (Physics); Dr Eric Rogers (Aeronautics and Astronautics).

Bath
Research grants and contracts awarded to the university from September 29 to October 28, worth £1,903,992, include:
School of Biology and Biochemistry: Dr G Holman, Functional Analysis and Pathophysiology of Glucose Transporters, MRC, £623,696.
School of Chemistry: Prof. L M Peter, Production and Characterisation of Silicon Based Luminescent Devices, SERC, £151,361.
School of Electronic and Electrical Engineering: Dr P J Moore, Dr R K Aggarwal and Professor A T Johns, Digital Distance Protection for Circuits Involving Cable Sections, GEC Alsthom and SERC, £150,598.
School of Mechanical Engineering: Professor K A Edge and Professor C R Burrows, Parallel Computing for Real-time Simulation and Condition Monitoring of Complex Fluid Power Systems, ERC, £153,498; Dr A R Millham and Dr H Hardisty (retired), Modelling of Electrochemical Machining (ECM) Process, SERC and Rolls-Royce, £139,140.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Arthur Penrhyn Stanley, Dean of Westminster 1864-81, Alderley, Cheshire, 1815; William Drummond of Hawthornden, poet, Hawthornden, Lothian, 1585; Sir William Hamilton, diplomat and archaeologist, Scotland, 1730; Ernst von Siemens, electrical engineer, Lenthe, Germany, 1816; Balthazar Vorster, Prime Minister of South Africa 1966-78 and President 1978-9, Jamestown, 1915.

DEATHS: Maimonides, philosopher, Egypt, 1204; Donatello, sculptor, Florence, 1466; Konrad von Gesner, physician, Zurich, 1565; Anthony Collins, philosopher, London, 1729; Samuel Johnson, writer, critic and lexicographer, London, 1784; Sir John Thompson, Prime Minister of Canada 1892-4, Windsor Castle, 1894; Wassily Kandinsky, painter, Neuilly-sur-Seine, 1944; Robert John Strutt, 4th Baron Rayleigh, physicist, Terling Place, Essex, 1947.

Abel Tasman discovered New Zealand, 1642; Oliver Cromwell became Lord Protector, 1653.

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BIRTHS

CARDOZO On 8th December to Louise and Blaise, a daughter Elizabeth Mary Dido, a sister for Benedict.

GIBBS - See Roll, December 1st to Belinda and Ferrill, a daughter, Alice.

LEVER - On December 8th at the Portland Hospital, to Karen (née Shamash) and Lawrence, a beautiful daughter, Gabrielle Naomi Sophie, a sister for Joshua.

ROLL - On December 1st, to Belinda and Ferrill, a daughter Alice, a sister for Helen and James.

DEATHS

BAILY - On December 10, 1993, peacefully at a nursing home, K.H.H. (Ken) Baily, aged 82, Freeman of the Borough of Bournemouth and former England cheerleader. Civic Funeral Service Friday, December 17, at 11.30 a.m. at St Peter's Church, Hinton Road, Bournemouth, followed by interment at Wimborne Road Cemetery. Flowers may be sent to Deric Scott, Portman Lodge Funeral Home, Bournemouth (0202 - 309609).

BARRY - On 4th November, in Canada, Surgeon Commander T.L. Barry, RN retd.

BRIGHT-HOLMES - On 7th December, suddenly at home, Patricia Eileen Margaret, sister of John. Funeral Service on Monday 20th December at 2 pm at St Nicholas Parish Church, Chiswick, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, but donations if desired, to St Nicholas Parish Church, c/o Rev. Patrick Tait, The Vicarage, Chiswick Mall, London W4 2PJ; or c/o W.S. Bond Ltd, 127 Chiswick High Road, London W4 2ED.

DEATHS

CHAPPELL - On 8th December, peacefully at St Thomas's Hospital, Marion Elizabeth Singleton aged 94, widow of Frederick Chappell, founder of Beachborough School. Funeral at Putney Vale Crematorium on Friday 17th December at 12 noon.

CLARK - William Grahame Douglas. On December 8th, aged 81. Beloved elder son of Mollie and Grahame Clark and mourned by Lyn and Shona. Service at South Bristol Crematorium at 12 noon Thursday December 16th. Family flowers only. Donations in lieu to C.L.I.C. Bristol.

DUCKWORTH - On December 9th, Grace, aged 88, peacefully in Salisbury District Hospital. Widow of Arthur. Beloved mother of Geoffrey and Rosemary. Also much loved grandmother and great grandmother. Private family cremation at Salisbury. No flowers by her wishes. Grace's family would like to welcome her friends to her home in Tunbridge Wells on Tuesday December 21st at 12.00 noon.

GOODISON - Jack Weatherburn of Melbourn on Thursday 9th December 1993 peacefully in his 91st year, formerly Deputy Keeper of the Fitzwilliam Museum and Fellow of Darwin College. Funeral Service on Friday 17th December at 3.15 at Cambridge Crematorium (Old Chapel) and afterwards at Darwin College. All enquiries to S. Newling & Son Funeral Directors. Telephone 0763 242376.

GRAFTON-WILLIAMS - Suddenly in France, John, darling husband of Paddy and devoted son of Mary Pressley. No letters. The funeral took place in Aries on December the 9th 1993.

DEATHS

LAWTON - On December 8th 1993 Philip CBE, DFC, most dearly loved and loving husband for 52 years of Letty, devoted father of Phillipa (White) and Charles, and grandfather of Serena, Richard, Timothy, Lucinda and Hermione. Service of Thanksgiving at St Peter ad Vincula, Wisborough Green on Friday 17th December at 12 noon. If desired donations in his memory may be sent to Cystic Fibrosis Trust, 5 Blyth Road, Bromley, Kent.

MORDAUNT-HARE - On 9th December suddenly Gillian beloved wife of Beauty and much loved by her daughters Carolyn (Cally) and grandsons Will and Leaf. Private cremation, followed by Service at St Edward's Church, Tetfont Magna at 3 pm on Friday 17th December. No flowers but donations if desired for the National Gardens Scheme c/o Will Case and Partners, 22 Churchfields Road, Salisbury, Wilts SP2 7NH

MORRISON Peacefully at home after a long illness, steadfastly and bravely borne Edna Mabel aged 55 years, of Myton on Swale and formerly of Otley. Dearly loved wife of Kenneth Duncan, loving mother of Andrew Eleanor and William, mother in law of Andrew, loved grandma of Laura and Charlie and a dear sister of Robert. Funeral service, Brafferton Parish Church, Thursday 16th December at 1:45pm followed by Cremation. Family flowers only please, donations may be made in Church or sent to University of Leeds, St James's University Hospital c/o Professor P J Selby.

MORTON Passed away peacefully after a short illness, Sir William Morton CBE, D.L. (Bill), beloved husband of Catherine, loving father of Peter, David and Charles. Private family funeral, memorial service to be announced. Any enquiries to John Ward and Son, Funeral Directors, Church Lane, Bagbrooke, Northampton. Tel: 0604 830438.

DEATHS

TURNER On December 5th peacefully at home aged 93, Jessie ("Bill") Turner, daughter of the late Alfred Turner R.A. of Fulham. Cremation Putney Vale 2 O' Clock, Wednesday 15th December. Enquiries to Brain and Gamble 071 385 7625.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

LEIGH - Sir John (Uncle Jack) died 13th December 1992. Remembered with love and affection. Cherie and Richard.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GENERAL Sir John & Lady Hackett will be spending no Christmas cards this yr & hope their friends will forgive them

RAINBOW Lady - When you read this, smile. My love always whatever happens. Soldier Boy.

THANKS to the Sacred Heart and St Jude for prayers answered. Publication promised. MMB.

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هكذا من الأصل

OBITUARIES

JOZSEF ANTALL

Jozsef Antall, Prime Minister of Hungary, died of cancer yesterday aged 61. He was born in Budapest on April 8, 1932.



JOZSEF ANTALL was an intensely private man who took on the daunting task of leading Hungary's first democratically-elected government after more than 40 years of Communist rule. Emerging from a cloistered academic life, he often appeared uncertain and ill at ease in the political spotlight. "I must be a madman or a missionary to take on such a job," he said just after the election, in a rare moment of personal revelation. Despite his own misgivings, Antall's harshest critics — of whom there were many — came to see his tenure at the helm as a time when Hungary found much needed stability. It was all the more valuable as it came during a turbulent period of economic transformation and regional political turmoil.

Unlike other East European leaders who came to power in those years, Antall was reserved, rather than dynamic. He rarely smiled, leading one American newspaper to comment that he suffered from "a chronic charisma deficit". With his dishevelled appearance, wrinkled suits and an aloof air, Antall remained, in the minds of many people, the dour museum director he once was. Nevertheless, he became a skilful operator in the complex political machinations which characterised Hungary's first experiment in democracy for decades.

It was his father who instilled in him a deep sense of humanity and respect for public service. Jozsef Antall Senior, a former interior minister and government commissioner for refugees before the Second World War, was instrumental in saving the lives of hundreds of Jews fleeing the Third Reich. A crucial moment in Antall's life was when the Gestapo came to the door to arrest his father. "I was 13 and they threatened to take me as well as my father if he didn't stop helping the Jews," he would recall.

Antall often referred to this episode, and its impression on him as a youth, when countering accusations that his party harboured anti-semitic tendencies. He was also proud to point out that when Hungary was flooded with refugees fleeing the civil war in Yugoslavia, he kept the borders open and reception centres functioning despite the country's severe financial problems.

Jozsef Antall was educated at the Piarist Grammar School in Budapest, and then studied humanities and political science at the Lorand Eotvos University in the capital, earning an MA and PhD in history. He first worked as an archivist, librarian and secondary school teacher. In 1964 he joined the staff of the Semmelweis Medical History Museum, Library and Archives in Budapest, of which he later became director. Under his leadership, it became one of the best institutes of its kind in the world.

Like other Hungarian intellectuals of his generation, Moscow's suppression of the 1956 uprising shaped his thinking.

Antall was chairman of a revolutionary committee at the Eotvos Gymnasium when the fighting broke out, and later paid the price for supporting reform. He was taken into police custody, suspended from his job and banned from teaching and publishing until 1963. He was not allowed to travel to the West until 1974.

When the first cracks appeared in Hungary's communist regime, Antall moved out of the shadows. He joined the Democratic Forum, a centre-right coalition espousing "Christian national values" which included a smattering of populist forces eager to rekindle a sense of lost Magyar pride. He became party chairman in 1989, after showing skill as a negotiator in the Round Table Talks that led to general elections in March 1990 and a peaceful transition to democracy.

The campaign revealed Antall's shrewd political instincts. His party, sensing a close contest, unleashed nationalist slogans considered anti-semitic. Antall did nothing to stop the hatemongers. His administration was always dogged by charges that he tolerated right-wing extremists in the party, although he was never personally accused of following this line.

Jozsef Antall was successful in steering Hungary towards European integration, and setting up a legal system to promote a market economy which quickly attracted the bulk of foreign investment in the region.

Relations with Germany and Austria become strong. Antall spoke German and identified with Christian Democratic parties in those countries. Many Hungarians prospered during this time, but others became impoverished as the economy adapted to market forces. Social tensions were rife.

While relations with Western Europe improved, Antall's attempts to represent the interests of the five million ethnic Hungarians who live outside the borders, in countries cut off from Hungary by the Trianon Treaty, aroused considerable suspicion in neighbouring capitals.

In many ways, Jozsef Antall was an enigma to all except a small circle of friends and relatives, who described him as a warm and humorous person who rarely showed that side in public.

Many considered him abrasive, especially when questioned about his family or personal life, which he guarded closely. This became more apparent after he was diagnosed as having cancer in 1991.

Yet he could also be loquacious and engaging when discussing his political role model, Winston Churchill, quoting freely from Churchill's writings. But his favourite subject was Hungarian history. Sitting in his grand office overlooking the Danube, Antall would regale visitors for hours with stories about the great Hungarian kings.

He is survived by, his wife and two sons.

PROFESSOR JOHN WISDOM

John Wisdom, Professor of Philosophy, Cambridge University, 1952-68, died on December 9 aged 89. He was born on September 12, 1904.



SINCE the death of Ludwig Wittgenstein in 1951, John Wisdom had been the only philosopher at Cambridge who came near to being leader of a school of thought. As he was the first to admit, he owed a very great deal to Wittgenstein — but he was less ready to dismiss the views of others as nonsense and displayed more sympathy towards the traditional metaphysicians.

His remarkably picturesque mode of lecturing and his attractive personality impressed many of his students and, at his best, he possessed an eloquence which does not often accompany philosophic discourse.

Arthur John Terence Dibben Wisdom was born in London, the son of a clergyman, and brought up in a Suffolk vicarage. He was educated at Aldeburgh Lodge School, Monkton Combe, Bath, and at Fitzwilliam House, Cambridge. He took both parts of the Tripos in Moral Science (philosophy), obtaining a first in Part I. On leaving Cambridge he worked for a time in the Institute of Industrial Psychology.

His first post as a teacher of philosophy was at St Andrews University, 1929-34, under G. F. Stout, who exercised a considerable influence upon him, as did his Cambridge teachers with their emphasis on careful analysis. In 1934 he returned to Cambridge as a lecturer and was soon elected a fellow of Trinity College, serving as a deputy junior bursar from April 1945 to June 1946.

In 1952 he succeeded Georg Henrik von Wright as Professor of Philosophy at Cambridge, a post formerly held not only by Wittgenstein but by G. E. Moore as well (it was Wisdom's misfortune always to be slightly overshadowed by these illustrious predecessors). Nevertheless his own tenure of the chair was a sustained one — where his immediate predecessor had lasted only four years Wisdom served for 16 before retiring at the age of 64 in 1968. He was several times a visiting lecturer at American universities and, on giving up his chair, took up the professorship of philosophy at the University of Oregon, where he remained until 1972, before returning to live, still as a fellow of Trinity, in retirement in Cambridge.

Wisdom was probably the most literary of modern British philosophers. In that sense the influence upon him of Wittgenstein was surprising — but it was primarily the stimulus of the Austrian's approach to philosophic problems that attracted him. His critics always mantained that there were two John Wisdoms — the first the rigorous, young Aberdeen lecturer and the second, following his coming under Wittgenstein's influence, the loyal Cambridge disciple. One colleague even went so far as to write that, if all the available records were lost, scholars would have concluded on internal evidence alone that the later works could not have been written by the same person as the earlier ones.

In truth, with his wide range of interests, Wisdom always remained his own man — and what his books demonstrated was the development of his own thought. Whether the change constituted an improvement is more controversial; it certainly seemed to some that his later work lost in precision what it gained in depth and, valuable as it was, would have been still more so if the analytic method of his earlier books had been retained as he broadened his horizons.

His first work, *Interpretation and Analysis in relation to Bentham's Theory of Definition* (1931), applied and studied this method in connection with the writings of Jeremy Bentham. *Problems of Mind and Matter* (1934) also exemplified the same method, despite one or two daring excursions into metaphysics.

Mention should also be made of a series of articles in *Mind* on *Logical Constructions* (1931-3) as an account of what philosophical analysis does.

His later work — unfortunately slight in volume — was of value less by way of producing precise forms of analysis and definite statements than as depicting a general way of thought capable of being applied to all philosophical problems and providing illuminating insights. His main publications in this period were *Other Minds* and *Philosophy and Psycho-Analysis* (both in 1952 and both collections of earlier articles). *Other Minds* is a discussion in dialogue form of the question how we know them. *Philosophy and Psycho-Analysis* remains probably the best work to consult in order to acquire an idea of Wisdom's philosophy, although it contains some earlier, and therefore uncharacteristic, articles. The title is not without significance, for he was very fond of comparing what a philosopher does to his pupils with what a psycho-analyst does to his patients, the "neurosis" to be cured being that of puzzlement due to a misunderstanding of language — the removal of which will make us no longer want to ask the puzzling questions. Consequently, objections to a view were regarded not as refuting it completely but rather as giving the qualifications which were needed if we were to continue to use the language in which the view was expressed.

To the followers of a more metaphysical tradition such an approach is probably always bound to look like an evasion of the real difficulties. But what distinguished Wisdom's work was the style and elegance of his own language. He was a master of imagery and metaphor — a lot of it drawn from his own love of country life (he was singular among philosophers in being an ardent rider to hounds) — and thought nothing in his lectures of invoking passages from the works of Marcel Proust. In that sense he could be considered a throwback to another era — an era in which philosophy was not just the queen of the sciences but the monarch of the arts as well.

John Wisdom was twice married. His second wife predeceased him and he is survived by the son of his first marriage.

SIR TREVOR REEVE

Sir Trevor Reeve, a Judge in the Family Division of the High Court, 1973-88, died on December 7 aged 78. He was born on July 4, 1915.



TREVOR REEVE was a keenly focused individual. Devotion in detail to family law, to divorce, wardships and probate was his métier. A zest for the rules of the game between spouses, with collusion and chamber maids as the jokers in the pack, also drove John Mortimer's father, the hero of *A Voyage Round My Father*; Mortimer's book on Probate was Reeve's steady stand-by.

As advocate and judge for 40 years, he upheld a code of honour with prewar affiliations. Later on he shifted to a new arena of legal aid, do-it-yourself divorce and council custody suits. Scandal and drama — as in Galsworthy and Waugh — took drabber, dryer directions, but his courtesy with defendants and easy way with children in court, despite having none himself, stood out.

Charles Trevor Reeves's father died when he was very young. His mother was a Bowring, linked to the City firm of insurance brokers. He went to Winchester, whose old boy's tie he later usually wore, and Trinity College, Oxford, joining the Army as a ranker on the outbreak of war. His regiment was the Tenth Royal Hussars and he saw service in North Africa where he became a staff officer. His brief was logistics which included a spoof plan to fix up girls for the Free French, riling the puritanical Montgomery. He was cited in dispatches and ended the war a major, with a spell at Staff College.

In 1941 he had married Marjorie Browne from Eccles, Lancashire, an actress, dancer and star as one of Cochran's Young Ladies. A deeply devoted husband, he later took dancing lessons to vye with her on the floor of the Imperial, Torquay, a favoured holiday spot.

He was called to the Bar by the Inner Temple, where he was later a Bencher. In 1946 he joined chambers at 1 Mitre Court. Its alumnae included Lord Hodson, Sir Seymour Karminski and, currently, Lord Justice Butler-Sloss. It had a strong divorce-and-probate tradition and it was chance, not settled disposition, that drew Reeve to what was then called the PDA for a career. He was soon active in setting up the Probate and Divorce Bar Association and he was a young member of the Bar Council for four years from 1950. He was to take leading cases to the House of Lords on how to define cruelty, as an offence in marriage, (once a central but now a minor issue) and on upholding a widow's right to sell a family home laden with legal aid costs.

He took silk in 1965, which slowed the inflow of state-aided work, by now a staple in his field, but in 1968 became a county court judge, in 1972 translating into a circuit one. He also had a rare spell outside his usual beat in Kenya testing appeals by Asian passport holders against barriers to UK immigration set up by the Commonwealth Imigration Act of 1968.

In 1973, he was promoted to the High Court as a judge in the Family Division. Devoted to his diary and shy by nature — he was no self-publicist nor avid reformer — he held the line with palpable decency and an acute eye for duty.

In 1973, an odd case won press reports. He had to award custody of a four-year-old girl either to a father or to a wife who ran off with her neighbour, only two doors away. He took the traditionalist view that "a father and two grown up brothers cannot be expected to cope without female assistance". The nappy-changing husband awaited another era.

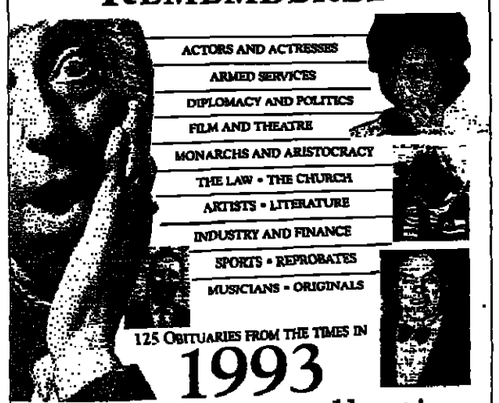
Golf often operates merely as the social lubricant of the law's upper reaches — but Reeve played to win. Sunningdale and Devon's Westwood Ho! — the latter a taxing terrain — were his courses. He sported for a time a near-celebrity handicap of one with a keen eye for exact distance play, via the long iron, which enabled him to win many Bar trophies.

His wife died in 1990.

THE TIMES

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CHRISTOPHER FRANK

Christopher Frank, British born French writer and director, died of a heart attack in Paris on November 21 aged 50. He was born in Beaconsfield on December 5, 1942.



CHRISTOPHER FRANK was an Englishman living in Paris who wrote in French with such literary distinction that he scooped the Prix Renaudot literary prize from under the noses of two French favourites in 1974. His novel *La Nuit Americaine* was the first by an Englishman to have received a leading French literary prize.

The son of an English director, Charles Frank, and a French mother, the young Frank spent his early years in England, moving to France at the age of 13 where he attended the lycée in Deauville.

At 16 he left school, returning to England to join the Royal Court Theatre as an electrician, although his ambition was to act or direct. His opportunity came when Roger Blin staged Genet's *Les Nègres* and he acted as Blin's bilingual assistant.

Back in France, he turned to literature and his first novel, *Mortelle*, won him, at the age of 25, the Prix Hermès. He also wrote plays for the Parisian stage.

La Nuit Américaine was a love story between a press photographer and an actress in which the problems they both have in defining their need for artistic expression are resolved through their attraction for one another. Frank described it as a psychological novel told in non-psychological terms.

After the success of *La Nuit Americaine* he concentrated on writing screenplays and became very much in demand. He worked with the avant-garde director Michel Deville and produced the script for Andrzej Zulawski's *L'important c'est d'aimer*; Jacques Deray's *Trois hommes dbattre*; films for Pierre Granier-Deferre; the Alain Delon production, *Le Battant*, in which the famous star turned to directing; and the *L'Atlantide* of Bob Swain, the American director based in Paris.

In 1981, Frank turned to directing and made more than half-a-dozen films, and a work for television, *La Femme de l'Amant*, which won the International Critics prize.

Among his films were *Josepha*, an adaptation of his own novel which starred Claude Brasseur and Miou-Miou, and, in 1983, *Femmes de personne* starring three leading French film actresses, Fanny Cottenco, Martha Keller and Caroline Cellier. In 1984, he shot a thriller set in St Tropez, *L'Années des Méduses*, and two years later another thriller, *Spirale*.

At his death, he had just finished *Elles n'oublient jamais* (Women never forget), a story full of jealousy, mystery and black humour dealing with a mistress who pursues her married lover (a kind of French *Fatal Attraction*).

Having tended to specialise in dramatic, unhappy love stories, he had recently decided to turn to something lighter and had finished a television script for a series based on the famous 1920s model, Kiki of Montparnasse, who posed for most of the great artists during the inter-war period.

Frank said that being the product of two cultures was both an advantage and a disadvantage. While it gave him a more objective view of each of the two societies and a greater awareness of vocabulary, it left him also with a strong sense of insecurity — a feeling of belonging to neither country.

Visitors found him discreet, sensitive and soft-hearted. However, his work as a novelist and as a man of the cinema over two decades, revealed a more tortured personality.

One leading French critic described him as living in a "sombre universe". Another said: "Frank painted the world rather bleakly and black and his attitude towards women was ambiguous".

Christopher Frank is survived by his wife and son.

ROGER HARMAN

Roger Harman, dermatologist, died from a brain tumour on October 24 aged 66. He was born on April 27, 1927.



ROGER HARMAN was a world expert on tropical dermatology, and a consultant dermatologist at Bristol Royal Infirmary for nearly 30 years. Within the profession, he was known as the co-author (with W. H. Jobling and J. Ebling respectively) of the chapters on Leprosy and Parasitic Worms in the first four editions of the standard *Textbook of Dermatology*. He also edited the second edition of *Clinical Tropical Dermatology* (1992).

His first love and his principal area of research was always Africa, to which he would return whenever he had the opportunity, and, in particular, Kumasi in Ghana, where he was once invited as visiting professor.

The privations of local life there (a fluctuating food supply and the primitive transport system) did nothing to put him off this part of the world. He was also at various times lecturer in Ibadan, Nigeria; associate professor in Shiraz, Iran; and visiting professor at King Abdul University, Jedda. After his retirement in 1989, he taught in Tanzania and, while there, attempted to climb Mount Kilimanjaro. He was only foiled when, at 16,000 ft, he developed pulmonary oedema caused by altitude sickness, but within weeks he was back in Britain, fitter than ever.

Roger Richard Martin Harman was born in Sussex and qualified in medicine at St Thomas's Hospital in 1950. After various training posts (mainly at St John's Hospital, London) and two years in the Army, he was appointed as consultant dermatologist at Bristol Royal Infirmary in 1963 and stayed there for the rest of his working life. He also built up a thriving private practice on the side.

Harman put in a good deal of time as a spokesman and advisor for the profession. He was chairman both of the Specialist Advisory Committee on Dermatology Training and of the Dermatology Committee of the Royal College of Physicians, and, in 1989, was elected president of the British Association of Dermatologists.

Hospital managers remember him as a tough negotiator, always striving to keep up standards and stop what he saw as the relentless deterioration of the NHS in recent years, through government underfunding. But he was also quite capable of sending a crisp memorandum to any department which he felt was adding to the problem through inefficiency or slovenliness.

Harman enjoyed an active retirement in the Somerset village of Chew Magna, where he had a small farm, and was married to the local GP. Involved with church affairs and the local dramatic society, he liked to stage musical evenings in his large garden with the Chew Magna Wind Group, which he accompanied on the piano.

He was also an expert on African drum rhythms and regularly visited Somerset schools for drumming demonstrations to raise money for African charities. He helped raise money to provide a well for one African village.

He is survived by his wife Pamela and two sons.

TRIAL OF LORD DE CLIFFORD ACQUITTAL BY PEERS

By Our Special Correspondent

For the first time in 34 years, the Royal Gallery was yesterday the scene of the ancient ceremony of trial by peers. Lord de Clifford had been indicted for the manslaughter of a young engineer, Douglas George Hopkins; and manslaughter being a felony, no other Court but the House of Lords possesses, during the Session of the Parliament, any jurisdiction to try a peer on such a charge . . .

After the Serjeant-at-Arms had called for silence "on pain of imprisonment", the proceedings opened with the reading of the King's Commission for the appointment of a Lord High Steward, all present standing uncovered. The document recited that the office was vacant "as We are informed"; for although the Lord High Steward is so great and dangerous a potentate that no permanent appointment has been made since 1399, the constitutional fiction is maintained that the vacancy has been allowed to continue by inadvertence.

Lord Hailsham was appointed *pro hac vice*, and was about to take up his office when the Serjeant-at-Arms proclaimed "Oyez, oyez, oyez" and began to summon the accused to the bar.

This interruption having been hastily suppressed, their lordships recovered the thread of the drama, and the Lord High Steward was conducted from the Woolsack to his official seat, where Garter King of Arms and Black Rod knelt to present him with his white staff. He immediately returned it to Black Rod, who held it throughout the trial.

Lord Hailsham sat with his three-cornered black hat on top of his wig, the peers also putting on their cocked hats and sitting down.

Next, the Serjeant-at-Arms having made proclamation, Black Rod was dispatched to fetch the accused, who appeared in morning dress without robes, and was immediately admitted within the bar, at which his predecessors have been compelled to kneel until given permission to rise.

Having bowed to the Throne and to the peers on either side, he was conducted to a chair with a desk and microphone before it, again enjoying special consideration, for Lord Russell was only allowed a stool. The Lord High Steward acquainted him with the nature of the indictment, and, Lord de Clifford, having pleaded "Not Guilty", was asked by the Clerk of the Parliaments, "How will your lordship be tried?" He replied: "By God and my peers." . . .

[A report of the trial followed.]

Finally, the Lord High Steward informed Lord de Clifford that he had been tried by his peers and found *Not Guilty*, and announced that nothing remained but to determine his own commission. The Serjeant-at-Arms commanded all manner of persons present to depart in the peace of God and of our Sovereign Lord the King; the Black Rod, kneeling, tendered the white staff to the Lord High Steward, who took it in both hands and snapped it in two.

ON THIS DAY

December 13 1935

Lord de Clifford (d. 1982) was the last man to be tried by his peers. Each of 85 present declared him "Not guilty, on mine honour". On January 9, 1936, he was acquitted at the Old Bailey of dangerous driving

THE TIMES TODAY MONDAY DECEMBER 13 1993

NEWS

Major under pressure over Ulster

■ John Major was caught between fierce and conflicting pressures from the Ulster Unionists, Dublin and the IRA as the Anglo-Irish peace initiative faced a make-or-break week.

Mr Major will decide with Albert Reynolds, the Irish prime minister, today whether to hold a third and potentially decisive meeting later this week. But he will do so in the face of renewed killing by the IRA who murdered two policemen in Co Tyrone in an attempt to put pressure on him to make concessions on a peace formula ..... Pages 1, 2

Low turnout jeopardises Yeltsin plan

■ The fate of President Yeltsin's proposed constitution hung in the balance as the country's first post-Soviet elections showed a low-turnout, hovering close to the 50 per cent participation needed to validate the referendum ..... Pages 1, 9

Gatt's critical hours

As the hours ticked away to a deadline set by the US Congress, American and European negotiators in the world trade talks were searching deperately for ways out of the crises afflicting the seven-year negotiation ..... Pages 1, 11

Windsor outrage

Unique medieval wall paintings at Windsor Castle have been badly damaged during modernisation work, prompting calls for new controls on work at royal palaces ..... Page 1

Gaza setback

Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation failed in talks to solve problems holding up the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the Gaza Strip and Jericho due to start today ..... Pages 1, 10, 15

Succession row

Two cabinet ministers entered the row over Prince Charles' succession to the throne as the Archdeacon of York, the Ven George Austin, claimed that a survey of the clergy had vindicated his stand against the Prince's succession ..... Page 2

Rape victim's plea

The young victim of a serial transvestite rapist appealed to anyone who knows him to call the police ..... Page 3

Clark before Scott

Alan Clark, the former trade and defence minister renowned for his forthright advocacy of British arms sales abroad, appears before the Scott enquiry ..... Page 4

Liquor outings

Prisoners made regular outings to an off-licence from Ford prison near Arundel, West Sussex, where it was rare to see staff patrolling the grounds, according to a report ..... Page 5

Car makers hit

Sales abroad by three of Britain's top car manufacturers, Ford, Vauxhall and Peugeot, have slumped because of the recession on the Continent. Meanwhile Nissan has emerged as the top car exporter ..... Page 5

Unwanted reforms

The Government's plans to reorganise local government once again are misconceived, Sir John Boynton believes ..... Page 7

Antall dies

Hungary's prime minister Jozsef Antall died at the age of 61 after more than three-and-a-half years in power that marked Hungary's transition from dictatorship to democracy ..... Page 9

ANC factions feud

A bitter struggle for power is developing among factions of the African National Congress as the countdown begins for next April's multi-racial election in South Africa ..... Page 10

Peking worried

Peking, by reviving Deng Xiaoping's threat to crush "man-made chaos" in Hong Kong, has shown that Chris Patten's Bill this week providing for a slight increase in democracy has teeth ..... Page 11

Perfect escort for the chic woman

■ The chic Manhattan woman's Christmas accessory of choice is "Safe-T-Man" — a lifelike replica of a hunk designed to sit in the passenger seat of a car to prevent car-jacking, America's latest criminal craze. Costing £67 and available in black and Caucasian models, and packaged complete with stubble or optional moustache, it is cheaper than a boyfriend ..... Page 10



Snow adds an early Christmas card touch in the lanes around Tadcaster, near York, with traditional transport completing the festive scene

SPORT

Football: A goal in the last minute by Ian Wright gave Arsenal a 1-0 victory over Sheffield Wednesday at Highbury and moved them into fourth place in the FA Carling Premiership ..... Page 19

Tennis: Petr Korda made a spectacular comeback to beat Michael Stich, the defending champion, in the final of the Grand Slam Cup, the world's richest tournament. The Czech picked up a prize of $1,625,000 ..... Page 20

Yachting: Lucy Fleming, an actress, and James Capstick, a police sergeant, beat more than 2,650 *Times* readers who applied for two specially reserved berths on the Ocean Challenge 1996-7 ... Page 20

BUSINESS

Granada: The television and electrical rentals group has attacked speculation that LWT, for which it bid last week, could mount an alternative plan to link with the troubled Yorkshire Tyne Tees contractor that would also involve Anglia Television ..... Page 36

Water standards: The EU summit decision to remit water standards to national control has caused confusion in the industry ..... Page 36

Interest rates: Ahead of another set of low inflation figures expected on Wednesday, one of the Chancellor's seven wise men has called for interest rates to be cut as low as 4 per cent by the spring to sustain recovery ..... Page 36

FEATURES

Secret numbers: "Britain leads the world in self-important, paranoid, control freaks: official." Libby Purves comments on the news that the United Kingdom has the highest average of ex-directory numbers in the world ..... Page 12

Cool brain: Jean-Paul Gaultier's fondness for the freaky has caused him to be unfairly labelled as a couture comedian — an image that is not completely accurate. Iain R. Webb reports ..... Page 13

EDUCATION

Integrated schooling: Children in Ulster learn religious prejudice at an early age — but change is under way ..... Page 31

ARTS

Looking at the dark side: Alan Ayckbourn would not give his latest play the ghost of a chance in the West End. So *Wildest Dreams*, with its themes of child abuse and marital violence, is opening at the Royal Shakespeare Company instead ..... Page 27

Fair solution? The Philharmonia and the London Philharmonic could end up with exactly the same level of subsidy. That is the escape-route from the turmoil in the London orchestral world ... Page 27

Bad taste rules OK: What were the comedy duo of Rob Newman and David Baddiel doing at Wembley Arena? Entertaining 12,000 shrieking young fans ..... Page 27

PEOPLE IN THE TIMES



Yassir Arafat will demand the return of £1.5 billion in gold allegedly owed to the Palestinians when he pays an official visit to London this week Page 10



Heidi Bell, 26, who spent six hours trapped under a capsized trimaran was praised for saving the lives of her fellow crew members Page 3



Phil Neale, the England A manager, took to the field to dismiss Transvaal after seven players were laid low with gastro-enteritis Page 19

THE TIMES TOMORROW

Snow reports

■ The start of an essential daily service for skiers heading for the Continent, with the most up-to-date information on weather and snow conditions in resorts from Andorra to Val d'Isère

Formidable target

■ Showcase for contemporary art? Or a new horse-riding facility for Kensington Gardens? Richard Cork on the threatened Serpentine Gallery

Law and the force

■ What will changes to the right of silence mean at a police interview? Anthony Edwards doubts that it will improve police standards . . .

TV LISTINGS

Gartnavel Royal, Glasgow's biggest psychiatric hospital, has been blamed by several bereaved families for the deaths of their loved ones. The allegations are examined in *Cutting Edge* (Channel 4, 9pm) ..... Page 35

OPINION

On the volcano's edge

Mr Rabin said yesterday that he had no doubt that agreement would be reached, given "a little bit more time". He knows that little more is available ..... Page 15

Only communicate

The Times is making a Christmas appeal on behalf of children with impaired speech. They are excluded from the master technological and social movement of the age ..... Page 15

Defending Hansard

Public access to parliamentary information is at least as important as access to personal files or historical records ..... Page 15

COLUMNS

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

Lenin shared with Roy Jenkins the tendency to pronounce "r" as "w". If these inabilities are genetic, the gene responsible is not a dominant one. I know of none of my forebears who have had any difficulty with the letter "s", and all my children can whistle ..... Page 14

PETER RIDDELL

Michael Heseltine unintentionally summed up British ambivalence over Europe. Britain, he said, had to avoid being the club bore of Europe, "sitting just inside the door moaning". His target was the media, but it applies as much to his own colleagues ..... Page 14

LETTERS

Should judges have discretion when sentencing defendants for the crime of murder? ..... Page 15

THE PAPERS

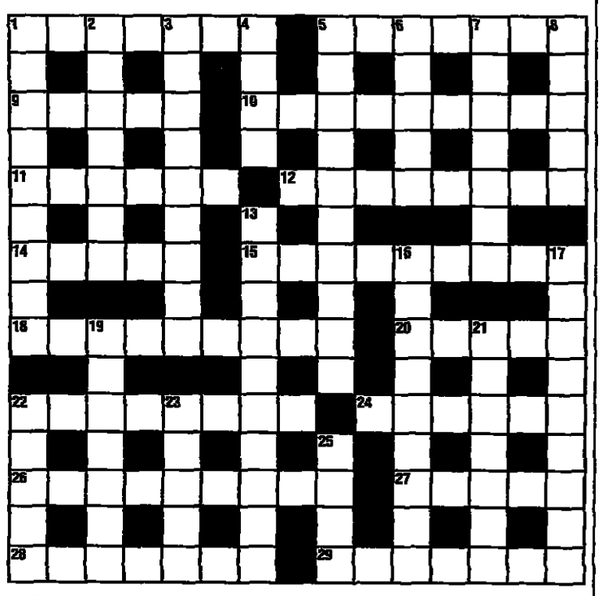
The new majority against mindless worship of firearms has yet to realise its power . . . for too long the NRA has smothered rational debate . . . using scare tactics on Congress and ignoble preachments from people like Charlton Heston who are willing to misuse their celebrity to help the gun lobby prolong its reign of blood

— The New York Times

The first question in today's voting [in Russia] will be the size of the turnout

— The Washington Post

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,412



ACROSS

1 Speak fast (7).
5 Opposed to a donation for a gypsy (7).
9 Record made by eccentric loner (5).
10 Pass the reader an accumulator (9).
11 Shutting up about growing old (6).
12 Fine as it may be, it must come to a stop (8).
14 An area with low rainfall is in a mess (5).
15 A device of people on the make! (9).
18 Filibuster, so all went out of order (9).
20 Make a start, though it's a struggle (3,2).
22 Cereal cooked in the can (8).
24 Let on about the meat (6).
26 Firm politician did something — when pressed! (9).
27 In some ways little men do better (5).
28 Review which is below par? (3-4).
29 Cut in quarters with serious result (7).

DOWN

1 Works out manoeuvres (9).
2 Quiet region of Spain that's absolute perfection (7).
3 Made a change to get in lane — such a bloomer! (9).
4 Wine in a bag? (4).
5 A bull never can be really defenceless (10).
6 Huge gun protecting soldiers (5).
7 Before noon put up an aerial (7).
8 An article about a note's number (5).
13 Do away with all crooks! (10).
16 A cracking treat for youngsters in spring (6-3).
17 "Science is organised ———", wrote Spencer (9).
19 Their sporting activity will involve them in a row (7).
21 Woman at that point takes up Anglo-Saxon (7).
22 Walker can get one into public relations (5).
23 Princess with house in America (5).
25 The limit for example of French ascendance (4).

KNOCKANDO

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 19,411 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will receive a bottle of Knockando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch whisky and a stationery rack

Times Two Crossword, page 36

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouds,Avon,Somrs	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereffs & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

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London & SE traffic, roadworks

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Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

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WEATHER

It will be cold with snow showers in Northern Scotland and the isles. The rest of Scotland, Northern Ireland, Lake District and Isle of Man will have sleet or snow, becoming brighter. North Wales and rest of northern England will have rain then sleet, with snow on hills. South Wales, Channel Islands, central and southern England heavy showers. Persistent rain in South West later. Outlook: heavy rain, then brighter with showers.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle, fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet, sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud, r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	14	57	s	Madrid	8	46	s
Akrotiri	19	66	s	Majorca	17	63	s
Alex'dria	21	70	c	Malaga	18	61	s
Algiers	17	63	s	Malta	17	63	f
Amst'dm	6	43	f	Melb'rne	17	63	c
Athens	18	64	c	Miami*	24	75	s
Bahrain	22	72	s	Milan	9	48	s
Bangkok	32	90	t	Montreal*	-6	21	c
Barbados*	28	82	f	Moscow	-1	30	sn
Barcelona	12	54	s	Munich	2	36	sn
Beirut	21	70	s	Nairobi	25	77	f
Belgrade	5	41	f	Naples	14	57	f
Berlin	5	41	c	N Delhi	22	72	s
Bermuda*	24	75	r	N York*	2	36	sn
Biarritz	16	61	s	Nice	14	57	s
Borde'x	14	57	f	Oslo	-7	19	s
Brussels	5	41	f	Paris	5	41	f
Budapst	5	41	f	Peking	3	37	f
B Aires*	29	84	s	Perth	25	77	s
Cairo	22	72	s	Prague	3	37	f
Cape Tn	32	90	s	Reykjavik	1	34	f
Chicago*	-2	28	s	Rhodes	19	66	f
Ch'church	20	68	s	Rio de J	28	79	f
Cologne	4	39	c	Riyadh	23	73	s
C'phagn	4	39	s	Rome	15	59	s
Corfu	14	57	s	Salzburg	3	37	sn
Dublin	8	46	r	S F'isco*	10	50	d
Dubrovnik	12	54	s	Santiago*	27	81	s
Faro	17	63	s	S Paulo*	23	73	f
Florence	7	45	s	Seoul	5	41	f
Frankfurt	5	41	c	Sing'por	32	90	f
Funchal	18	64	f	St'kholm	-1	30	sn
Geneva	6	43	s	Strasb'rg	6	43	f
Gibraltar	17	63	f	Sydney	32	90	s
Helsinki	-5	23	sn	Tangier	18	64	s
Hong K	19	66	r	Tel Aviv	28	73	s
Innsbruck	3	37	f	Tenerife	21	70	f
Istanbul	13	55	f	Tokyo	11	52	c
Jeddah	31	88	f	Toronto*	-9	16	s
Jo'burg*	22	72	f	Tunis	17	63	f
Karachi	27	81	s	Valencia	15	59	s
L Palmas	22	72	s	Vanc'ver*	7	45	r
La Toquet	6	43	f	Venice	11	52	s
Lisbon	10	50	s	Vienna	5	41	c
Locarno	7	45	s	Warsaw	2	36	c
L Angels*	14	57	c	Wash'ton*	4	39	f
Luxembg	2	36	c	Wel'ngton	17	63	f
Luxor	25	77	s	Zurich	6	41	f

* denotes figures are latest available

LONDON

Yesterday: Temp. max 6am to 6pm, 11C (52F); min 6pm to 6am, 4C (39F). Humidity: 6pm, 90 per cent. Rain. 24hr to 6pm, 0.35in. Sun. 24hr to 6pm, nil. Bar, mean sea level, 6pm, 999.2 millibars, falling. 1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Saturday: Highest day temp: Falmouth, Cornwall 10C (50F); lowest day max: Aviemore, Highland 2C (36F); highest rainfall: Buxton, Derbyshire 0.56in; highest sunshine, Littlehampton, West Sussex 7.2hr.

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 7C (45F), min 6pm to 6am, —1C (30F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.39in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, nil

GLASGOW

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 3C (37F), min 6pm to 6am, —3C (27F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.41in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, nil.

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	-	0.41	3	37	snow
Anglesey	2.0	0.02	8	46	shower
Aviemore	0.2	0.06	2	36	snow
Belfast	2.2	0.38	5	41	sleet
Birmingham	3.9	0.24	7	45	shower
Bognor Regis	6.4	0.02	7	45	sunny
Bournemouth	4.6	0.02	8	46	sunny
Bristol	6.0	-	7	45	sunny
Buxton	-	0.56	3	37	snow
Cardiff	1.4	0.12	7	45	cloudy
Clacton	4.0	0.01	6	43	shower
Cromer	2.0	0.02	x	x	shower
Edinburgh	1.8	0.02	5	41	cloudy
Eskdalemuir	3.0	0.26	3	37	sunny
Exmouth	5.5	0.06	7	45	sunny
Falmouth	3.3	0.20	10	50	bright
Folkestone	4.4	-	7	45	bright
Glasgow	5.2	0.29	5	41	sunny
Hastings	5.2	-	7	45	sunny
Hunstanton	1.2	0.02	6	43	shower
Isle of Man	2.4	0.12	7	45	shower
Jersey	1.7	0.20	8	46	hail
Kinloss	-	0.15	5	41	snow
Leeds	1.5	0.11	6	43	shower
Lerwick	-	0.12	3	37	sleet
Littlehampton	7.2	-	7	45	sunny
Liverpool	0.9	0.09	7	45	shower
London	3.2	-	7	45	sunny
Lowestoft	2.5	0.01	5	41	rain
Manchester	0.4	0.37	6	43	hail
Margate	X	-	7	45	bright
Minehead	X	0.23	8	46	hail
Morecambe	3.8	0.07	6	43	rain
Newcastle	3.7	0.01	5	41	sleet
Nottingham	0.9	0.15	5	41	sleet
Penzance	3.0	0.26	9	48	hail
Plymouth	4.2	0.02	8	46	bright
Poole	5.7	0.03	8	46	sunny
Saunton Snd	1.7	-	6	46	cloudy
Scarborough	3.1	-	4	39	bright
Scilly Isles	2.5	0.14	9	48	shower
Shanklin	5.9	0.02	7	45	sunny
Southend	3.2	-	6	43	bright
Southsea	6.2	0.05	8	46	sunny
Swanage	5.6	0.03	8	46	sunny
Teignmouth	5.9	0.07	8	46	sunny
Tenby	3.1	0.03	8	46	cloudy
Tiree	3.3	0.19	6	43	bright
Torquay	4.9	0.05	9	48	sunny
Weymouth	5.2	0.17	8	46	sunny

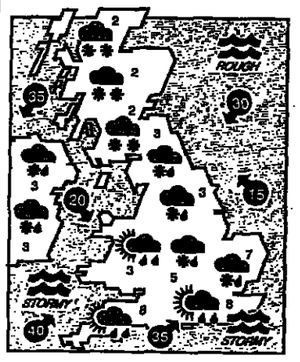
*Denotes not available
These are Saturday's figures

TOURIST RATES

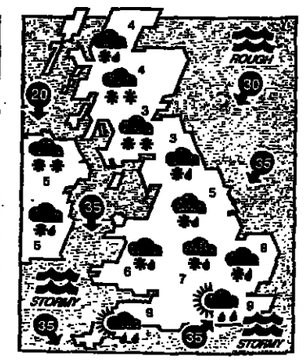
	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.36	2.16
Austria Sch	18.85	17.85
Belgium Fr	56.26	51.88
Canada $	2.095	1.935
Cyprus Cypf	0.780	0.740
Denmark Kr	10.54	09.74
Finland Mkk	9.18	08.38
France Fr	9.14	8.44
Germany Dm	2.69	2.48
Greece Dr	384.50	359.50
Hong Kong $	12.19	11.19
Ireland Pt	1.10	1.02
Italy Lira	2593.00	2436.00
Japan Yen	180.50	161.00
Malta	0.625	0.570
Netherlands Gld	2.980	2.760
Norway Kr	11.62	10.62
Portugal Esc	270.00	251.50
South Africa Rd	5.75	4.85
Spain Pta	216.50	202.50
Sweden Kr	12.94	12.14
Switzerland Fr	2.32	2.14
Turkey Lira	21209.0	20209.0
USA $	1.590	1.460

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading Friday.

AM



PM



LIGHTING-UP TIMES

London 3.52 pm to 7.58 am
Bristol 4.02 pm to 8.08 am
Edinburgh 3.38 pm to 8.38 am
Manchester 3.49 pm to 8.17 am
Penzance 4.20 pm to 8.13 am

Sun rises: 7.58 am
Sun sets: 3.52 pm
Moon rises: 7.52 am
Moon sets: 4.12 pm

New Moon 9.27am

Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1986: The hours of darkness are defined in these Regulations as the period between half an hour after sunset and half an hour before sunrise.

YESTERDAY

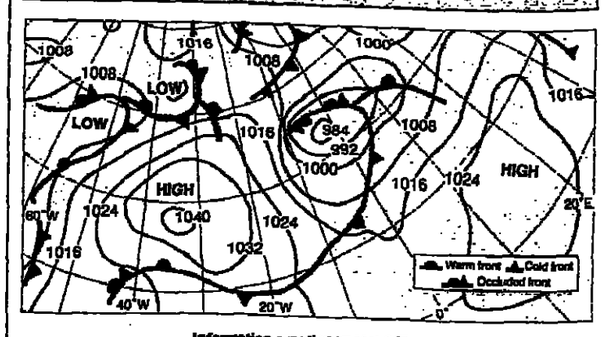
Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

	C	F			C	F	
Belfast	4	39	f	Guernsey	9	48	r
B'mngham	8	46	s	Inverness	3	37	f
Blackpool	7	45	f	Jersey	10	50	d
Bristol	9	48	s	London	9	48	f
Cardiff	7	45	r	M'nchster	7	45	r
Edinburgh	5	41	f	Newcastle	7	45	r
Glasgow	5	41	f	R'nidsway	6	43	f

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	1.10	6.9	1.33	7.0	Liverpool	10.45	9.8	11.11	9.5
Aberdeen	12.35	4.3	12.55	4.4	Lowestoft	8.50	2.5	9.11	2.5
Avonmouth	8.45	13.1	7.09	13.1	Margate	11.30	4.7	11.57	4.7
Belfast	10.34	3.6	10.58	3.6	Milford Haven	5.42	7.1	6.05	7.0
Cardiff	8.30	12.1	8.54	12.1	Newquay	4.33	7.1	4.56	7.0
Devonport	5.19	5.6	5.44	5.5	Oban	5.14	4.1	5.32	4.0
Dover	10.27	6.7	10.57	6.6	Penzance	4.17	5.7	4.40	5.6
Falmouth	4.49	5.4	5.14	5.3	Portland	8.11	2.2	8.34	2.1
Glasgow	——	——	12.38	4.3	Portsmouth	10.52	5.0	11.20	4.9
Harwich	11.26	4.1	11.51	4.0	Shoreham	10.35	6.3	11.08	6.2
Holyhead	9.46	5.7	10.13	5.6	Southampton	10.17	4.8	10.50	4.6
Hull	5.44	7.4	6.05	7.5	Swansea	5.46	9.6	6.08	9.5
Ilfracombe	5.23	9.2	5.49	9.2	Tees	3.03	5.5	3.22	5.6
King's Lynn	5.52	6.6	6.13	6.6	W'ton-on-Nze	11.18	4.3	11.43	4.2
Leith	1.58	5.7	2.19	5.6					

NOON TODAY



Information supplied by Met Office

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هكذا من الأصل



ARTS 27-28

Alan Ayckbourn is back with more unhappy families



EDUCATION 31

How can university admissions be made fairer?



BUSINESS 32-36

LWT's chairman is not ruling out a bid for Yorkshire TV

BOOKS ON MONDAY
Page 29

THE TIMES

MONDAY DECEMBER 13 1993



IAN STEWART

Limpar flies in to try to block a kick by Nilsson, his fellow Sweden international, during yesterday's FA Carling Premiership encounter at Highbury

Wright heaps more agony on Wednesday

Arsenal 1
Sheffield Wednesday 0

BY KEITH PIKE

NINETY-TWO minutes of tedium, one moment of magic: the equation will matter little to Arsenal, who yesterday stole one of the unlikeliest FA Carling Premiership victories of the season after one of its most forgettable matches.

At Wembley in May, it had been Andy Linighan, broken nose notwithstanding, whose header in the last minute of extra time had won the FA Cup for Arsenal and completed their unique double at Sheffield Wednesday's expense. The late show this time featured the more predictable figure of Ian Wright, who poached the only goal from nowhere 75 seconds into injury time to end Wednesday's 13-match unbeaten run.

Yet even Wright's late strike — only ten more seconds were played — could not, for once, placate Arsenal's supporters. A large number of Highbury's lowest league attendance of the season had already vented their frustration at their team's woeful showing, and the derision continued after the final whistle as Dixon and Pearce, the Wednesday substitute, exchanged punches as they left the field.

"The conditions were not ideal and in the end it was down to basic technique, and Ian Wright was the difference," Trevor Francis, the Wednesday manager, said. "He is a phenomenal goalscorer and when you have someone like him in the side you don't need to play well to stand a chance of winning.

True enough. Wright, forced deeper and wider in his attempts to shake off Walker's attentions, had gone back to his more accustomed central position when Miller, the Arsenal goalkeeper, rolled the ball out to Morrow on the Arsenal left with the game almost up.

A hopeful punt forward, in keeping with the match, this time proved effective as Smith leapt to get a faint flick-on and, as the ball squirmed between a posse of Wednesday defenders on the edge of their own area, there was Wright, bursting forward to steer a low right-foot shot just inside the far post.

Wright, who had given Arsenal the lead in both the FA Cup final and the replay, and scored the only goal in the league game at Hillsborough in August, was claiming his twentieth goal of the season.

"Poor performance, great result," George Graham, the Arsenal manager, said. Wisely, he made no attempt to talk up another sterile, shapeless performance by his team. "A couple of weeks ago, we played superbly against Aston Villa and lost; today, we were below par but won." His smile told you which alternative he prefers.

That Miller, allowed by Seaman's suspension to start only his fourth league game for a club he joined nine years ago, was undoubtedly Arsenal's best player was an indictment of their display. He saved bravely from Worthington, athletically from Bart-Williams, and probably deserved his luck when Jemson and Bright, both through with only the goalkeeper to beat, finished tamely.

In front of him, a few flashes of inspiration from Limpar apart, Arsenal were a shambles, lacking urgency as much as creativity and making enough mistakes at the back to prolong Wednesday's hopes of victory. Thanks to Wright, Arsenal are back in fourth place, 15 points behind Manchester United but several leagues short of the champions' class.

ARSENAL (4-4-2): A Miller — L Dixon, A Adams, M Keown (sub: S Bould, 57min), S Morrow — A Limpar, J Jensen, I Selley, P Merson (sub: K Campbell, 80) — A Smith, I Wright.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (4-4-2): K Pressman — R Nilsson, C Palmer, D Walker, S Coleman — C Bart-Williams (sub: A Pearce, 90), G Hyde, R Jones, N Worthington — N Jemson (sub: A Poric, 78), M Bright.

Referee: D Gallagher.

Gascoigne scores, page 24
Charlton slip, page 25

England claim sickness benefit

FROM MICHAEL HENDERSON IN JOHANNESBURG

ENGLAND'S brightest young cricketers have been in South Africa for only two weeks but already they have had experiences denied to others in a lifetime. After England A's triumphant window-dressing tour of the townships came yesterday's nine-wicket victory against Transvaal, achieved by four wholly-fit players, three volunteers who defied instructions to stay in their sickbeds and four, occasionally five, substitutes. A morning roll-call revealed that, of the 11 players originally selected, only Wells, Rhodes, Ilott and Such had avoided the gastro-enteritis which laid the other seven low. Entreaties to Jimmy Cook, a sympathetic Transvaal captain, enabled them to regroup at lunchtime after the morning session had been abandoned, with 36 overs lost.

Adversity can often draw out performances of substance, though rarely as substantial as those England found from somewhere. Transvaal, who were 100 for two overnight, lost eight wickets in making another hundred runs, leaving England to make 69 which they got for the loss of one of the sick men, Lathwell, who hooked the first ball of the innings to long leg.

By any standards this was a striking win which can only bring further together a harmonious group of cricketers.

The morning casualty list prevented Phil Neale, the team manager, from raising a quorum. When Dr Len Weinstein was summoned he diagnosed gastro-enteritis and advised the seven not to play. Four of the suffering batsmen — Morris, the captain, Crawley, Loye and Dale — were sent back to the team hotel but as lunchtime approached Lathwell, Gough and Cork pronounced themselves fit and willing to play. Morris, Cork and Gough were all given injections to counter nausea.

When Wells led them out at 1pm the side included the three players not picked for this match — Croft, McCague and Bicknell — as well as Neale, whose last first-class match, for Worcestershire, was in July 1992. The temperature touched 80°F and the Wanderers Ground is 6,000 feet above sea level. It was no task for faint hearts.

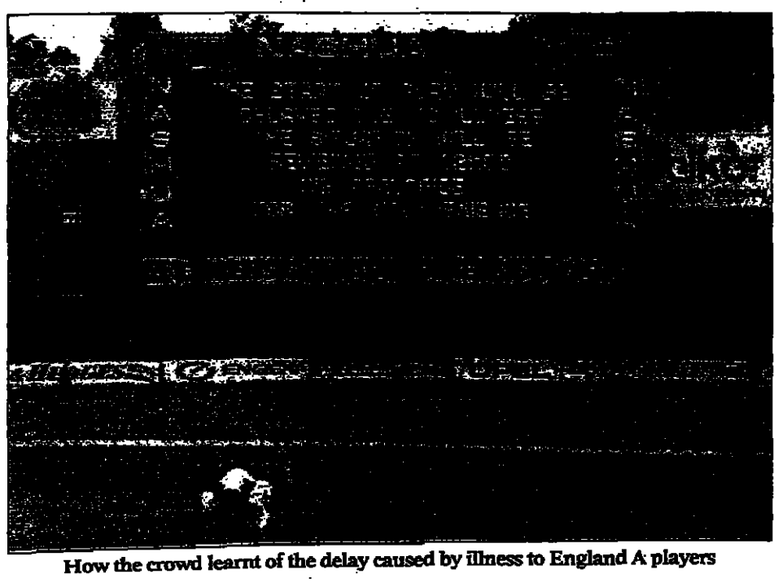
When Gough retired after bowling five overs, this ragged ensemble was joined by Wayne Morton, the physiotherapist, whose experience of competitive cricket amounts to "a couple of matches, two years ago", for Poole in the Leeds League.

Gough had slipped out Haysmam before he went off although he returned later, to little effect. The match-winner was Ilott who bowled unchanged throughout the afternoon, taking three wickets in his eighteenth over, five in the day and six for 61 in the innings. Twice last summer he returned better figures but he can never have bowled more manfully.

Transvaal were one run behind when he struck three times in five balls by observing a full length — a quality frequently displayed by England's pace bowlers here. Cook, shuffling across his stumps, and Pothas were leg-before and in between Laing was smartly held low down at second slip by Wells.

Lathwell wasted a chance to run out Rushmere, and Croft dropped the same player. Otherwise England's out-cricket was impressive and the bowling straight. Such, recalled immediately after tea, completed an admirable performance by taking the two wickets that remained and the weather held long enough for Rhodes to add an unbeaten 33 to his first-innings 45 and eight catches in the match.

"At midday," Bob Bennett, the tour manager, said, "we had written off seven players in our minds but Gough said he would give it a go and then Corky thought he would play." In these circumstances a fine victory was accomplished against all expectations and most normal practice. It reflected honour on everybody involved.



How the crowd learnt of the delay caused by illness to England A players

TRANSVAAL: First Innings 161 (M D Haysman 52).

Second Innings

M Yachad c Lathwell b Ilott	9
B M White lbw b Cork	11
M D Haysman c Rhodes b Gough	52
M W Rushmere not out	84
*S J Cook lbw b Ilott	9
D R Laing c Wells b Ilott	0
†N Pothas lbw b Ilott	2
S Jacobs c Rhodes b Ilott	2
C E Eksteen c Rhodes b Ilott	4
S D Jack c Rhodes b Such	24
M R Hobson b Such	0
Extras (lb 16, w 2, nb 5)	23
Total	200

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-48, 3-114, 4-131, 5-131, 6-133, 7-143, 8-157, 9-200.

BOWLING: Ilott 26-5-61-6; Gough 14-2-53-1; Such 15.3-4-43-2; Cork 10-5-13-1; Dale 6-2-14-0.

ENGLAND A: First Innings

M N Lathwell c Pothas b Jack	83
*H Morris c White b Jack	7
J P Crawley run out	44
A P Wells lbw b Hobson	7
M C Ilott c Pothas b Jack	5
M S Loye c Pothas b Hobson	19
A Dale b Hobson	43
†S J Rhodes b Hobson	45
D G Cork lbw b White	9
D Gough not out	5
P M Such c Pothas b White	0
Extras (b 5, lb 8, nb 9)	22
Total	293

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-9, 2-111, 3-141, 4-156, 5-157, 6-188, 7-275, 8-276, 9-291.

BOWLING: Jack 21-1-76-3; Hobson 23-1-76-4; Jacobs 27-11-45-0; Laing 12-2-36-0; Eksteen 27-11-43-0; White 2.5-1-4-2.

Second Innings

M N Lathwell c Hobson b Jack	0
†S J Rhodes not out	33
A P Wells not out	27
Extras (b 4, w 4, nb 1)	9
Total (1 wkt)	69

FALL OF WICKET: 1-0.

BOWLING: Jack 6-1-17-1; Hobson 5-0-30-0; Eksteen 3-1-8-0; Jacobs 2.3-0-12-0.

Umpires: C Mackley and R Koetzen.

Australia triumph, page 21

"The secret to a long life is to stay busy, get plenty of exercise and don't drink too much. Then again, don't drink too little."

BERNARD F. QUIGLEY, 103-YEAR-OLD CALIFORNIAN.



INTRODUCE SOME CALIFORNIAN INTO THE CONVERSATION.

E&J

SINGLE CASK MATURED BRANDY.

Bath reject foul play claim

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

BATH, the leading English rugby union club, will take no action over allegations of eye-gouging made after their league match with Harlequins on December 4.

Club officials watched a video of the match yesterday and decided that no "deliberate act" of foul play could be attributed to an individual player.

The allegations arose last week after Troy Coker, the Harlequins lock, finished the match at the Stoop memorial ground with scratch marks around his eyes sufficient for the club doctor to express his concern to Jamie Salmon, the Harlequins general manager. There were further accusations of indiscipline and the London club invited Bath to view a video of the game.

John Hall, the club captain who played in the match, John Gaynor, the Bath chairman, and John Quin, the club secretary, watched the BBC television's Rugby Special video yesterday, but could not find a case to answer.

"Bath Football Club, in response to a request from Harlequins — a club for whom we have the greatest respect — have made an internal inquiry and watched a ... video of the game," Quin said in an agreed statement.

"As a result of our investigation and in respect of the incidents mentioned to us, no evidence of any misdemeanour by a Bath player which can be adjudged a deliberate act was observed. We have taken this allegation very seriously at Bath. We have never before had such an allegation made against us and we feel our record speaks for itself. That said, we do not condone foul play at any level."

Bath's investigation has included talking to their players in respect of an incident in which Coker, an Australian international, went to ground, a mêlée formed about him and he returned to his feet holding his face. Coker said he could see little for much of the second half but believes there was a deliberate assault.

Coming in the aftermath of some unsavoury incidents during the New Zealand tour of England and Scotland, both clubs are very aware of the climate of opinion about acts of violence for which no punishment is handed down. But Bath officials have made it clear they will not crucify their own players if they can see no justification for doing so.

Harris on target, page 26

Davies's Australian title

LAURA Davies, of England, shot a four-under-par round of 69 yesterday to hold off three rivals from the United States and win the Australian Ladies Masters golf championship at Royal Pines. Davies, the 30-year-old former British Open champion, clinched victory with a birdie on the par-five 18th hole while Muffin Spencer-Devlin missed a 4½-foot birdie putt that would have forced a play-off.

Spencer-Devlin and Jane Geddes, the two-time champion, were the overnight leaders and both had final rounds of 73. They tied for second with Leigh Ann Mills, also of the United States, who had a flawless final round of 68. Davies finished with an 8-under par total of 211 for her fourth tournament triumph of the year and her 25th overall. She earned a first prize of $24,750 (around £16,500).

Her round included five birdies and a single bogey, on the par-5 ninth hole. Geddes, Spencer-Devlin and Mills all were at 212, with Li Wen-lin, of Taiwan, fifth on 213 after a final round of 70. "I'm delighted, but it was a shame Muffin had to finish like that," Davies said. She is the longest hitter in women's golf.

Her other victories this year came in Thailand, in Britain and in the McDonald's LPGA championship in the United States. She was grateful to avoid a sudden death play-off because she has a 1-6 career record in play-offs.



Davies: close triumph

Geddes and Mills finished as runners-up for the second consecutive year. Mills found the 6,087-yard, par-73 resort course easier to play than did her rivals. "I hit every fairway and virtually every green, so I gave myself lots of chances at birdies," she said.

Mills, 28, from Coral Springs, Florida, was the winner of this year's US LPGA Tour School. The $165,000 (around £110,000) event was the only remaining professional women's tournament on the Australian calendar.

☐ Tony Johnstone, of Zimbabwe, won his second South African Open title with a record tournament aggregate of 267, for 21 under par, at Durban yesterday.

Scores, page 22

Bruising battle fails to deflect holders

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

WIGAN endured a bumpy passage into the quarter-finals of the rugby league Regal Trophy yesterday as they overcame Oldham in a tetchy 16-8 win at The Watersheddings.

The holders netted first-half tries by Panapa, Connolly, and Robinson. Oldham's reward for a battling display in the second period of a bruising game was a try by McDermott.

The Nolan brothers, Gary and Rob, claimed the tries for Hull, with one converted by Eastwood. It was a hard-fought 10-6 victory that ended Widnes's progress. The visitors had led for much of the first half through a score by their hooker McCurrie.

The quarter-finals draw today will feature London Crusaders for the first time. A 42-10 win was achieved in blizzard conditions at Ryedale-York. Scott Roskell scored a hat-trick and Mark Riley crossed twice.

Three tries by the stand-off half, George Graham, inspired Carlisle to a 34-4 rout of Bramley, whose future is at stake because of financial difficulties.

Heavy snow wiped out the three ties in West Yorkshire. Castleford and Leigh hope to try again tonight and the matches between Bradford Northern and Halifax and Batley and Salford will take place tomorrow.

Demonstrations outside the St Helens boardroom on Saturday night preceded the 16-8 home defeat by Warrington. Mike McClennan, their New Zealand coach, was barracked and had an altercation with a protester. Tommy Martyn, their scrum half, will appear before the Rugby Football League's disciplinary committee on Thursday after his dismissal for tripping Jonathan Davies.

Davies, the architect of Warrington's ninth consecutive victory, shrugged off the incident, landing four goals. Myler scored the conclusive touchdown. Twelve-man St Helens fought back with second-half tries by Cooper and Nickle.

Results, page 22

Doctor patches up Czech and he becomes instant millionaire

Korda takes cup with stunning display

FROM STUART JONES, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT IN MUNICH

PETR Korda needed to go to the limits of human endurance, and at times seemingly beyond them, to claim the Grand Slam Cup. The prize-money of $1,625,000 may be considered an excessive reward but nobody could claim that the 25-year-old from the Czech Republic did not earn it.

In beating Pete Sampras in the semi-final on Saturday night and Michael Stich in the final yesterday afternoon, he spent eight hours and 19 minutes on the Olympiahalle's main indoor court here. It took him a total of 127 games to overcome the players ranked, respectively, No 1 and No 2 in the world.

Sampras was so dehydrated after his defeat that he was advised by a doctor not to attend the usually obligatory press conference. He and the equally punch-drunk Korda ultimately resembled a pair of late night revellers lurching down the Bayernstrasse having over-indulged on gluwein.

The arena's switchboard was swamped in the morning with calls from ticket-holders enquiring as to whether Korda would be fit enough to compete. Too tired even to exchange the customary pleasantries with his victim at the net, he was not convinced that he would recover. Nobody in the competition's history had.

In each of the four years, the second semi-final has been stretched to five sets. On every occasion the winner (Brad Gilbert in 1990 and Michael Chang in 1991 and 1992) had been predictably swept aside in the final in straight sets. The same fate surely awaited Korda.

Before resuming, his doctor from Prague repaired his damaged back and elbow. Korda felt optimistic, but Stich, involved in the final of every tournament he has entered in Germany this year, was enjoying a rich purple patch. In coming back from a two-set deficit against Stefan Edberg, he could do no wrong.

After Korda had yielded the first set, another swift conclusion appeared to be more certain than probable. But he explained that he was suffering not from fatigue but nerves. They loosened during a bizarre sequence of events on a fast surface supposedly suited to the server.

Nevertheless, there were eight breaks in 13 games as Korda, shaped like the brush of a chimney sweep, first recovered and then went ahead. The quality, though adversely affected by their combined toils the previous day, was at times dazzling and the drama which unfolded in the final set was compelling.

Stich, attempting to protect an unbeaten record which had run through the ATP world championship and the Davis Cup final, was enraged by his failure to seize the initiative. Escaping penalties which might eventually have cost him the match, five times he took his frustration out on his racket.

But he was sympathetic enough to extend a consoling arm around an opponent who had hurtled into the base of the umpire's chair and sat down briefly beside it. He was generous enough, too, to join the applause after Korda had leapt to save a break point at 7-7.

By then he had already been on the verge of winning his first title of the year. Stich, serving at 4-5, was rescued three times by a favourable net cord. The third was especially lucky. He was facing his second match point. "A few bad words went through my mind," Korda recalled.

Broken to love as he served for victory at 5-3, he had to survive five crises before striking a fittingly clean backhand to win the 389th point and to transform himself instantly into a millionaire. "It is a great moment after a bad year," he said.

"My father always told me that I should be a good fighter and never give up on court. That is what I did." He revealed that since the US Open, he had been working specifically on his serve and on his upper body. "Not to be like Arnold Schwarzenegger but just to be stronger and it has worked."

He did not mention his stamina. He had no need to. It had been obvious to every observer.

RESULTS

SEMI-FINALS: M Stich (Ger) bt S Edberg (Swe) 2-6, 3-6, 6-3, 6-3, 6-1; P Korda (Cz) bt P Sampras (US) 3-6, 7-6, 3-6, 7-6, 13-11.
FINAL: Korda bt Stich 2-6, 6-4, 7-6, 2-6, 11-9.

FRANK AUGSTEIN



Korda sinks to his knees during the draining final in Munich yesterday

Change of role for yachting adventurers

BY BARRY PICKTHALL

AN ACTRESS and a police sergeant have beaten more than 2,650 readers of *The Times* who applied for two specially-reserved berths on the Ocean Challenge 1996-7, the round the world yacht race for amateurs.

For Lucy Fleming, who is working this week with Penelope Keith during filming for Thames Television's situation comedy, *Law and Disorder*, the news came as a surprise. "It never crossed my mind that I might win," she said. The news was similarly received by James Capstick, a member of the Metropolitan Police mounted division. "I have not even told my bosses that I had applied. Now I have got to ask them for a year's leave," he said yesterday.

More than 2,000 people applied for fewer than 150 places on the fleet when Chay Blyth announced the Ocean Challenge but two berths, one for a man and one for a woman, were reserved for readers of *The Times*. Each applicant was asked to write an essay on why he or she wanted to take part in the tough 30,000-mile race against the prevailing winds, which starts from Southampton in September 1996.

Twelve were selected for a final training weekend at the MaST centre in Oxfordshire and from those, Fleming and Capstick have emerged. *The Times* will be offering bursaries towards their costs and they will report on their experiences.

Fleming, 45, who lives by the River Thames at Henley, does have some experience of dinghy sailing but the nearest Capstick, 35, from Woking, has come is in a canoe. "I have never stepped on a yacht in my life but I saw a documentary on the BBC about last winter's British Steel race and thought 'What a great challenge — so different to anything else I have done'."

Fleming says she inherited her sense for adventure from her father, the writer Peter Fleming, who answered an advertisement in *The Times* in 1932 to join an expedition down the Amazon. "Chay Blyth's Challenge rang bells," she said. "I thought 'what an opportunity to travel.' When its so easy to fly, sailing round the world would be a real achievement."

Blyth was impressed by the finalists. "The final choice was very hard to make. They came to the finals vying for these two positions and ended up helping each other through a series of very difficult exercises."

Blyth is unconcerned by their lack of deep sea experience. "We are not looking for yachtsmen but for people with a deep sense of adventure who are good team players," he said. "Over the next two years, we shall be teaching Lucy and James all they need to know about sailing. They start with a five-day induction cruise next month."

The other finalists each win one of a variety of cruises aboard Blyth's round the world yachts.

OCEAN CHALLENGE 1996–1997
The World's Toughest Yacht Race
THE TIMES



Capstick: challenge



Fleming: adventure

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THIS year, for *The Times* seasonal selection of wines to drink at home, or to send as festive wrapped gifts to friends, we have enlisted the help of Lay & Wheeler of Colchester, one of Britain's most respected wine merchants.

The wines we have chosen are special, and not available in any supermarket or high-street off-licence. They are from the latest vintages, and bottled by the vintner, a guarantee of authenticity.

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Teddington rescued by Billson strike

BY SYDNEY FRISKIN

TEDDINGTON capitalised on the slackness in East Grinstead's defence to secure a 2-2 draw at home in the Pizza Express national men's hockey league on Saturday. In the absence of Laslett, who was taken ill on Friday night, Teddington were without inspiration in midfield, whereas East Grinstead thrived on the enterprise of Stuart Head, Gibson and Bhatti.

Head's superb goal for the visitors in the 22nd minute from a difficult angle was answered indirectly from a short corner by Colclough a minute after the interval. Gibson restored East Grinstead's lead with an excellent goal in the fortieth minute but Billson levelled the score 19 minutes later.

Hounslow's 7-0 win over Canterbury, in which Thompson scored twice, kept the champions at the top of the first division table. With Southgate's match against Old Loughtonians postponed, Havant moved into second position after beating Bromley 1-0 with a goal by Cross.

Stourport and Cannock lost valuable ground, Stourport in a 1-0 defeat by Reading and Cannock in a goalless draw with Firebrands.

Reading's win, their sixth in ten matches, lifted them to third position. Robert Wood, who came on as substitute, scored their goal after 64 minutes, but the architect of victory was England under-21 player Jon Wyatt.

Barford Tigers were held to a 1-1 draw by Oxford University and remain behind Surbiton and Guildford in the second division. Jennings scored twice for Guildford in a 4-2 win over Beeston and Surbiton beat Cambridge City 7-1. Notton and Mollow each scoring three goals.

Brooklands lost 2-1 to Sheffield after Grimley's last-minute penalty stroke was saved.

The league has now gone into its winter break and will resume on January 23.

Results, page 22

Southgate's power too hot to handle

SOUTHGATE coasted into the fifth round of the Hockey Association men's cup with a 10-0 victory over York at Broomfield School yesterday (Sydney Friskin writes). York, from the North Premier League, travelled a long way in bad weather to be outclassed: the skills of Collinson at centre half and Carter at right half were not enough to stem Southgate's onslaught.

After conceding three goals, York briefly turned the match into a contest, forcing two short corners in succession. But by half-time Southgate had built a 6-0 lead, Waugh and Woods scoring twice each within 27 minutes.

Welch and Gisborne were the other scorers in the first half, with further goals in the second period from Waugh and Sean Kerry, from short corners, and two more by Welch in open play.

Hounslow, the holders, and Teddington, last year's runners-up, had little trouble reaching the fifth round. Crutchley scored three goals for Hounslow in a 7-1 win over Old Kingstonians. A flooded pitch at Pickett's Lock caused the Teddington-Crostyx match to be switched to Old Loughtonians at Chigwell, where Teddington secured a 2-0 win, Hauck scoring in the fourteenth minute and Benzies four minutes after the interval.

East Grinstead played comfortably in a 3-0 victory over Edgbaston. Lee's goal from a short corner in the 21st minute was followed by goals from Bhatti and Lock in the second half. Mullis replied for Edgbaston in the last minute.

Firebrands, who held Cannock goalless in the league on the previous day, were well beaten by 3-0, with goals from Hughes-Rowlands, scoring twice, and Pidcock.

Welton, from Hull, lost 1-0 to Surbiton, for whom Notton scored in the 45th minute from a short corner; but two other northern clubs, Warrington and Harrogate, survived.

The eagerly-awaited match between Stourport and Havant was postponed because the pitch at Kidderminster was waterlogged.

Enquiry likely into response to SOS

FROM BARRY PICKTHALL IN FREMANTLE

AS DANIEL Malle and his crew aboard the French maxi yacht, La Poste, closed on the finishing line here at the end of an incident-filled second stage of the Whitbread Round the World Race last night, questions have been raised about who would and would not turn back to rescue fellow competitors in distress.

Malle and his team lost more than two days after heading back into a storm to find the Italian crew on Brooksfield after they set off an SOS alert ten days ago. La Poste then stood by the crew as they bailed out their leaking boat and patched up the stern where a broken rudder had damaged the hull.

Grant Dalton, skipper of New Zealand Endeavour, which leads the maxi division overall, alleged that one unnamed skipper had been heard on the radio saying that he would not turn back because it might cost him the race.

New Zealand Endeavour was the duty radio yacht within the fleet when the signal from Brooksfield's emergency beacon was first picked up by the Australian search and rescue centre in Canberra and it was Dalton's job to co-ordinate the search within the fleet.

If the New Zealander decides to name names tomorrow when the international jury meets to discuss Brooksfield's rescue, the culprit could face a disciplinary ban.

One skipper already in trouble is Chris Dickson, charged with breaking the rules after his yacht, Tokio, arrived with no radar fitted. The revolving aerial was later found by race officials stowed below deck where its weight would have had less effect on the yacht's heeling moment.

If found guilty, the 14-hour lead Tokio at present holds over Lawrie Smith's European entry, Intrum Justitia, could be cut.

Still at sea, Eugene Platon aboard the Ukrainian entry, Hetman Sahaidachny, continued to lead Dawn Riley's Women's Challenge after a close tussle for much of this 7,500 mile chase across the Southern Ocean from Uruguay. Both yachts withdrew from the race after the first stage to Punta del Este, only to re-enter with fresh sponsorship, and in the case of the Women's Challenge, a new skipper was found.

However, while Riley and her crew are hopeful of gaining sufficient sponsorship to complete the race once they reach Fremantle tomorrow, Platon and his men may be forced once again to withdraw. More than 700 miles astern, Matthew Humphries and his Dolphin and Youth Challenge are bringing up the rear of the fleet after their enforced stop at the Kerguelen Islands to repair their rudder.

Like Brooksfield and the Spanish entry, Galicia 93, Humphries and his crew look certain to be working over Christmas to repair their boat in time for the leg to Auckland, starting on January 9.

SECOND LEG

WHITBREAD 60 CLASS: 1, Intrum Justitia (L Smith, Eur) 25days 14hr 39mn; 2, Tokio (C Dickson, NZ) 25 16 38; 3, Yamaha (R Field, NZ) 25.20.27; 4, Galicia 93 Pescanova (J de la Gandara, Sp) 25.22.10; 5, Winston (B Butterworth, US) 25.12.08). Overall positions (after two legs): 1, Tokio 50:03:07, 2, Intrum Justitia 50:17.19, 3, Yamaha 50:17 58, 4, Galicia 93 Pescanova 50:18:41; 5, Winston 51:11:58 — subject to redress
MAXI CLASS: 1, Merit Cup (P Fehlmann, Swtz) 25 21.11, 2, NZ Endeavour (G Dalton, NZ) 25.22.57. Overall positions (after two legs): 1, NZ Endeavour 50:06:16; 2, Merit Cup 50.12 53
OTHER POSITIONS (at 14.00GMT yesterday, with miles to Fremantle): Whitbread 60 class: 6, Hetman Sahaidachny (E Platon, Ukr) 252. 7, Women's Challenge (D Riley, US) 319. 8, Brooksfield (G Maisto, It) 600 (estimate). 9, Odessa (A Verba, Ukr) 753, 10, Dolphin & Youth Challenge (M Humphries, GB) 946 Maxi class: 3, La Poste (D Malle, Fr) 73. 4, Uruguay Natural (G Vancini, Uru) 774
Information provided by BT.

هكذا من الأصل

Seeking to steer Britain back on course

Introspective administration, lack of moral probity and a year in which modest success has been outweighed by conspicuous failure leave Britain on the sporting sidelines. This week *The Times* looks at what is wrong and how Britain can regain a lead in world sport

LEADERSHIP IN SPORT

David Miller

England may have defeated the All Blacks, Britain may have athletics champions in Christie, Jackson and Gunnell, our golfers like Faldo and Montgomerie are flourishing and we have a couple of motor racing drivers in Mansell and Hill. The awards functions of the BBC last night and the Sports Writers' Association tonight are justifiably upbeat.

Yet the reality is that much of British sport, on and off the field, is in a mess. Competitively, administratively, morally. British organisations head towards the 21st century in confusion: fragmented, arguing, jealous and left behind in the field of international leadership.

Britain, which gave organised modern sport to the world, which formulated most of the rules, where the Corinthian spirit epitomised attitudes that were universally admired, is a languishing power. "International statesmanship has passed us by," Lord Howell, the only effective minister for sport Britain has had, observes.

"The British, the last bastion of ethics, seem not to have noticed that the train carrying everyone else has left the station," Charlie Battle, an Anglophile Georgian lawyer and livewire of Atlanta's Olympic Games committee, says with disappointment. The situation, on analysis, is even worse than might be supposed.

A year of only modest success has been punctuated by conspicuous failure: on the field, in organisation, in moral probity. The English football and cricket teams have respectively disintegrated in the World Cup and against India and Australia. Manchester failed in its Olympic bid, again. The chief executive of the Football Association defends violent play, and it is left to the Professional Footballers' Association — or the civil courts — to attempt to eliminate the kind of serious injury that has afflicted Gary Mabbutt, among others.

Allan Lamb ends up in court for voicing his opinion on abuse of the ball, under the regulations, by Pakistan, and Will Carling is threatened with reprisal, via the International Rugby Football Board, for similarly speaking out against New Zealand's abject cheating. Governing bodies stall and the truth has somehow become evil.

The unnecessary corruption of sport and its rules by money and sponsorship — necessary lifelines — by blind competitive expediency and, by omission, neglectful officials, now threatens sport's fundamental function, acknowledged by de Coubertin, founder of the Olympics: teaching us how to live our lives. Performers are threatened with intolerable pressures, physical an mental, which undermine their future through injury. And, by inference, our future, in an increasingly immoral world.

I am ashamed that my generation, the last to have had a link with the glorious Thirties and to have experienced the vintage Fifties, the last of the untainted wine, has squandered the responsibility to retain values. Of course there have consistently been great events and great performers in all sports in the recent era, yet only in spite of the growing cancer. Where now are the leaders?

The erosion is happening on all fronts. The Department of Education (DoE), in reply to the Central Council of Physical Recreation (CCPR) in May 1993, on collegiate elimination of sporting opportunity, stated that there had to be cost-effectiveness, "including the academic use of Wednesday afternoons traditionally devoted to sport".

Iain Sproat, cricket and tennis enthusiast and the newest of a line of sports ministers who have all previously had their stumps splattered without scoring, is attempting a rescue operation: the long-frustrated creation of a single coherent British sports authority.

"I think that the importance of sport to the country has been deeply underestimated," Sproat says. "I aim to restore competitive sport in schools, but the power to do so [in conflict with the DoE] is not great. Sport in schools teaches team spirit, discipline, sportsmanship and courage, all the things you need in life. I want Labour support for restoring schol sports competition. I wouldn't give a damn, for the moment, if we don't win another international football, cricket or rugby match if we can get the proper pursuit of those four qualities, plus enjoyment, in schools."

Sproat has booted into touch the absurd project of his predecessor, Robert Atkins, for a new gargantuan overall UK Sports Council of 150 administrators. He wants a tight, lean, unified body of fewer than ten representatives, but for the moment is still listening to the opinion of the array of duplicating, conflicting rival agencies: the separate Sports Councils of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales, the British Olympic Association (BOA), the CCPR, the Sports Aid Foundation (SAF) and the abortive un-unified British Sports Forum.

Introspective Britain is resentful that, having dominated international federations and councils a generation ago with leaders such as Sir Stanley Rous and Lord Burghley, and having been the influential authority on rules in most Olympic events, never mind non-Olympic sports such as cricket and rugby, the scene is now dominated by Latins: Samaranch in the International Olympic Committee (IOC), Havelange in football, Nebiolo in athletics, Vazquez Rana in national Olympic committees, Suleiman in boxing.

For all their limitations, these men have produced huge expansion, competitive and commercial, in their fields. They are not to be ignored. If they have been unchallenged by Britain, that is a reflection of the present anonymity of the British as much as their clever political negotiation. The rest of the world is no longer listening to Britain meekly shouting advice from the touchline.

Juan-Antonio Samaranch, the IOC president, says: "Britain has too many committees, too many voices. But they have to regain their position, not necessarily as presidents, within the federations. International sport needs them. Also, they must open their minds to engaging more foreign coaches. Nobody questions that Britain was the birthplace of modern sport but they cannot live on history." Jacques Rogge, of Belgium, president of the body for European national Olympic committees and a potential successor to Samaranch, says: "Your singularisation [as four countries] is both a traditional strength and a contemporary weakness".

The weakness lies in application as well as policy. On the middle Sunday of the Olympics in Barcelona, with a dozen major events under way, the chairman and director of the English Sports Council could be found having dinner with each other and their wives. A 48-hour visit, the chance to learn, to research the access to power, was being wantonly wasted.

Lord Archer, former Oxford University and British sprinter and a low-grade but tough rugby referee, is typically outspoken. "You have to pay good adminstrators good money, to go out and find them, not necessarily within sport. You are going to offend some traditionalists, but leaders by definition cannot be popular. We have genuine leaders here, such as Hanson, Goldsmith and Branson. The nominations [by the Princess Royal and Dame Mary Glen Haig] for the IOC [David Hemery, David Wilkie and Chris Baillieu] would be wholly ineffective. We must get Sebastian Coe in there, in time to become eventually a world figure."

The well-intentioned Princess Anne and Dame Mary have been, as was apparent during Manchester's vain bids for the Olympics, isolated from the majority of their IOC colleagues. Yet gratuitous critical comment on foreign leaders by the British press has had no impact, other than to help antagonise those leaders and further push Britain towards the fringe.

Britain has a temperamental problem over leadership. We habitually mistrust, in all fields, powerful chief executives who might become dictators. But benevolent dictatorship is the fastest route to development.

We prefer instead figureheads, powerless leaders beneath whom operate a profusion of safe, indecisive committees. Hence Britain has been content to respect the Duke of Edinburgh and his daughter in prominent positions; he as president of the CCPR, she of the BOA, whereas in fact their royal restrictions prevent them being demonstrative public leaders (and I am a staunch monarchist). Their royal occupancy, domestically admired, blocks rather than assists Britain's return to authoritative international leadership, especially among the new world of Africa and Asia and the former colonies.

> 'The reality is much of British sport is in a mess. Competitively, morally administratively. British organisations head towards the 21st century in confusion, fragmented and arguing'

Prince Philip's patronage of the CCPR has, historically, obstructed the creation of a single British sports body. He has backed the energetic Peter Lawson, the CCPR's general secretary, in attempting to undermine the Sports Council, inheritor by royal charter of the national sports centres. Yet both bodies are English, and do not fully represent the interests of British sport, even though the English Sports Council underwrites elite British teams for the Olympics.

"The CCPR is totally ineffective," Lord Howell reflects, having unavailingly attempted when minister to find a unifying formula. "They turn up everywhere, but what do they do?" The CCPR is anachronistic: its Fair Play Charter and leadership training scheme are splendid, and three of the financial initiatives in Kenneth Clarke's recent budget were CCPR-originated. Yet it has no direct authority in active sport, no power of censure.

Sproat needs to achieve radical reform before decline advances further. First, a single body on which the minister presides (preferably carrying Cabinet rank) and embracing the SAF's private sector funding. "There's no point in a minister who isn't behaving like one," Howell asserts.

Second, the delegation to the BOA of responsibility for all elite sport, including non-Olympic sport, as a subdivision of the overall body which should preferably be called "British Olympic and National Sports Federation", similar to that in other countries.

Third, equal representation on the amalgamated body for the four national sports councils responsible for leisure/grass-roots sport. Fourth, a position for the CCPR as an "upper house", the talking shop of governing bodies which it now is, without involvement in active sports; and with a reduced budget instead of its profligate £800,000 per annum paid under contractual obligation by the Sports Council.

It is shameful that almost half the British competitors at the 1992 Olympics returned in debt from their preparation while Germany assisted 3,900 competitors beforehand with over £6,000 per annum each.

"It isn't all that easy to change a country's point of view," Craig Reedie, chairman of the BOA and the only serious alternative to Coe as IOC member, reflects. Coe himself, former Sports Council vice-chairman, is succinct. "In any sport, with short-term failure you look at the performers. With long-term failure, you look at the adminstration." Britain urgently needs answers. Iain Sproat has the authority to impose some.



Sproat: authority





Faces of defeat in 1993: Pearce, left, captain of the England football team that failed in the World Cup, and Gooch, whose England cricketers had a miserable year

TOMORROW

Self-interests and resentments behind football's problems

Woeful New Zealand beaten

MATTHEW Hayden, the Queensland opening batsman, made an unbeaten fifty on his home debut in international one-day cricket as Australia beat New Zealand by eight wickets in their World Series Cup match in Adelaide yesterday.

Hayden, promoted on the strength of his 118 average in the domestic Sheffield Shield competition, guided Australia past New Zealand's dismal total of 135.

But the left-hander struggled for timing and fluency, taking 38 overs to reach his half-century.

David Boon, who scored 51, hit the winning run with 11 overs to spare. The pair shared a decisive third-wicket partnership of 94.

Hayden was also involved in the run-out of Mark Waugh, who had scored 21 when he was stranded, attempting a fourth run.

The defeat marked a new low for the tourists following their 2-0 Test series defeat by Australia. New Zealand, semi-finalists in last year's World Cup, batted woefully, losing their last seven wickets for only 31 runs.

Not once did the run-rate exceed three an over. The leg-spinner, Shane Warne, was voted man of the match, taking four wickets for 25. The fast bowler, Glenn McGrath, also took four New Zealand wickets.

South Africa head the triangular tournament with three points after beating Australia by seven wickets on Thursday.

Their match against New Zealand on Saturday was washed out.

SCOREBOARD

NEW ZEALAND

B A Young b Reiffel	18
R T Latham c M E Waugh b McGrath	1
*K R Rutherford c Reiffel b McGrath	15
M J Greatbatch lbw b Warne	28
C L Cairns c Border b Warne	31
C Z Harris c and b Warne	4
†T E Blain not out	9
D N Patel c Healy b McDermott	1
G R Larsen c Reiffel b Warne	8
C Pringle c Border b McGrath	4
D K Morrison c Healy b McGrath	3
Extras (lb 8, w 3, nb 2)	13
Total (48.2 overs)	135

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-33, 3-79, 4-104, 5-109, 6-112, 7-113, 8-124, 9-132.

BOWLING: McDermott 10-2-15-1; McGrath 8.2-2-32-4; Reiffel 8-2-20-1; S Waugh 7-0-16-0; M Waugh 5-0-19-0; Warne 10-1-25-4.

AUSTRALIA

M J Slater lbw b Pringle	8
M L Hayden not out	50
M E Waugh run out	21
D C Boon not out	51
Extras (lb 4, w 1, nb 1)	6
Total (2 wkts, 38.5 overs)	136

*A R Border, S R Waugh, †I A Healy, P R Reiffel, S K Warne, C J McDermott and G D McGrath did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-16, 2-42.

BOWLING: Morrison 6-2-31-0; Pringle 8-3-18-1; Cairns 9.5-0-27-0; Larsen 9-0-37-0; Patel 4-0-19-0

Pakistan face testing day on damp pitch

PAKISTAN, 31 runs ahead with seven second-innings wickets in hand, face a struggle to reassert themselves against Zimbabwe when the second Test resumes in Rawalpindi today after the rest day yesterday. The pre-lunch session on the fourth day, on a still-moist pitch, is likely to be crucial.

Pakistan struggled against swing bowling on Saturday when they batted a second time. Streak trapped Sohail leg-before with the total on 25; Shoaib, on 38, edged a perfect outswinger to the wicket-keeper; and one run later, Rehman was leg-before to Brain. It was left to Inzamam-ul-Haq and Javed Miandad to steer their side safely to the close.

SCOREBOARD

PAKISTAN: First Innings 245 (Asif Mujtaba 54 not out; D H Brain 4 for 41).

Second Innings

Aamer Sohail lbw b Streak	9
Shoaib Mohammad c A Flower b Streak	13
Inzamam-ul-Haq not out	9
Ata-ur-Rehman lbw b Brain	0
Javed Miandad not out	1
Extras (lb 7, w 1)	8
Total (3 wkts)	40

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-25, 2-38, 3-38.

BOWLING: Brandes 7-3-6-0; Brain 11-1-20-1; Streak 4-1-7-2.

ZIMBABWE: First Innings

G W Flower c Inzamam b Wasim	0
M H Dekker c Inzamam b Waqar	68
A D R Campbell lbw b Ata-ur-Rehman	63
D L Houghton c Asif b Ashfaq	5
*†A Flower c Wasim b Waqar	12
G J Whittal c Inzamam b Ashfaq	29
D H Streak c Inzamam b Waqar	2
G Bruk-Jackson c Aamer b Waqar	0
D Brain c Ata-ur-Rehman b Waqar	16
E A Brandes c Basit b Wasim	18
S G Peall not out	11
Extras (b 9, lb 10, w 1, nb 10)	30
Total	254

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-102, 3-110, 4-126, 5-131, 6-203, 7-203, 8-204, 9-225

BOWLING: Wasim 21-4-68-2; Waqar 19-3-89-5; Rehman 14-4-40-1; Ashfaq 17-8-31-2, Aamer 3-0-8-0.

Rain clouds Sri Lanka's feat

RAIN led to the abandonment of the fourth day's play in the Test match between Sri Lanka and West Indies yesterday, leading to renewed criticism of the choice of Moratuwa as venue. Almost two days of the match have been lost and the pitch, which drew adverse comments from Richie Richardson, the West Indies captain, before the game, has now been branded as a "mudhole" by local newspapers.

The match had been finely poised after three days. Sri Lanka were 43 for two in their second innings, 29 runs in front after dismissing West Indies for 204. The most likely outcome is now that the match, which ends today, will be drawn.

Sri Lanka's gamble in playing only one fast bowler paid off as their spinners took all ten wickets in dismissing West Indies half an hour after lunch on the third day.

A 84-run fifth-wicket partnership between Richardson, who spent 201 minutes over 51, and Hooper was the most productive of the West Indies innings. Their seperation was the start of a spell in which West Indies lost their last six wickets for 36 runs in 13.5 overs, Muralidharan claiming three wickets for five runs in 17 balls. He finished with four for 46.

Hooper was the only batsman to show any confidence against the spinners and top-scored with 62.

West Indies hit back by removing both Sri Lankan openers promptly. Benjamin had Mahanama caught at short leg and Samaraweera was run out.

SCOREBOARD

SRI LANKA: First Innings 190 (P A de Silva 53; W K M Benjamin 4-46).

Second Innings

R S Mahanama c Simmons b Benjamin	11
D P Samaraweera run out	5
H P Tillekeratne not out	9
P A de Silva not out	15
Extras (nb 1, lb 2)	3
Total (2 wkts)	43

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-17, 2-18.

BOWLING: Ambrose 6-2-13-0; Walsh 9.1-4-20-0; Benjamin 6-5-5-1; Harper 1-0-3-0.

WEST INDIES: First Innings

D L Haynes lbw b Anurasiri	20
P V Simmons c Dasanayake b Kalpage	17
*R Richardson c Dasanayake b Kalpage	51
B C Lara c Dasanayake b Muralitharan	18
K L T Arthurton c Jayasuriya b Anurasiri	0
C L Hooper c Samaraweera b Muralitharan	62
R A Harper lbw b Jayasuriya	3
†J R Murray lbw b Anurasiri	7
W K M Benjamin b Muralitharan	2
C E L Ambrose not out	7
C A Walsh c Kalpage b Muralitharan	0
Extras (b 4, lb 1, nb 12)	17
Total	204

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-42, 2-42, 3-76, 4-84, 5-168, 6-178, 7-191, 8-191, 9-204

BOWLING: Wickremasinghe 11-0-35-0; Ranasinga 4-1-6-0, Anurasiri 35-6-77-3, [illegible] 27-2; Muralitharan 15.5-4-47-4; Jayasuriya 3-0-7-1.

Winter Olympics on horizon as blizzard upsets World Cup schedule

Norway prepares for Alpine conquest

ERIC GAILLARD



Mader, of Austria, the overall World Cup leader, races to first place in the men's super-giant slalom at Val d'Isère yesterday

FROM DAVID POWELL
IN VAL D'ISÈRE

FOR the second successive Alpine World Cup skiing season, the first men's downhill was called off on Saturday. Val d'Isère suffered a repeat of the blizzard that stopped the race last year and an overwhelming schedule for some competitors now becomes even more demanding. For Kjetil Andre Aamodt, of Norway, the giant slalom and slalom world champion, the task intensified.

In February, Norway hosts the Winter Olympics for the first time since 1952 and the national football team has qualified for the World Cup finals for the first time since 1938. Aamodt is the centre forward of the Norwegian Alpine team, the man on whom his country will depend.

As an all-rounder, skiing the disciplines of downhill, super-giant slalom, giant slalom and slalom, Aamodt faces seven races in nine days at six venues. The downhill here has been rescheduled for Val Gardena on Friday. Here today is the giant slalom that should have been held in Stoneham, Canada, last weekend but was called off because of fog.

Saturday went from bad to worse for Aamodt: no sooner had the race been called off than he heard of the death of Ales Gartner, 45, the head technical coach of Norway. It was testimony to his mental strength yesterday that he should bear his grief and still finish second in the super-giant slalom. He came off the piste in tears. "He was like a father to us," Aamodt said. Gartner died of a heart attack.

Aamodt skied fifth, then watched as most of the best practitioners failed to match him. The piste seemed to be slowing and, when Marc Girardelli, the overall World Cup champion, could not get close, victory looked secure for Aamodt. However, Günther Mader, of Austria, skiing 28th, showed the form that has given him the overall World Cup lead this season to squeeze a win.

That the Norwegians are moving towards overwhelming success at the Winter Games was emphasised yesterday. Two of Aamodt's compatriots, Jan Einar Thorsen and Atle Skaardal, also finished in the top six.

Norway won more medals in the world championships than Austria and Switzerland combined, but Norwegian skiing had to question its method five years ago after the Calgary Olympics. "We looked at what we were doing wrong and put it right," Johan Baumann, the federation president, said. In each successive World Cup season since the reappraisal, the Norwegian men have improved their number of World Cup race wins: from two in the 1988-89 season to eight in 1992-93.

Norway rules the piste and says its piece. Norwegian federation officials have been hard at work trying to modify the World Cup and have been pushing for fields to be limited to 50 competitors on ranking plus ten wild-card places.

Since Britain has nobody in the men's top 50, it may have no World Cup interest come 1995-6 if, as Baumann expects, this contentious move is adopted at the International Ski Federation congress in June.

A nations' World Cupmay be some compensation for the British. Norway are pressing for a team event, involving men and women in all disciplines, to be held after the main event of the year (the world championships or Olympics) with the existing World Cup, in which the individual takes the glory, shortened from four months to three. Britain would take part.

Hardcastle captures her fifth title in four days

BY CRAIG LORD

HUNTING trophies and breaking long-standing records can be a tiring business. At Gloucester in the ASA winter swimming championships, Sarah Hardcastle's fifth national short-course title in four days came more painfully than the first four.

Had she, a week ago, swum the 400 metres freestyle at the world short-course championships at Palma, Majorca, as fast she did yesterday — clocking 4min 07.06sec — she would have finished second to Janet Evans, of the United States.

It happened again in the 800 metres on Friday night when, in 8min 23.96sec, she broke the longest surviving British short-course record. That time would have placed her second at Palma. On Saturday, her "fun day", she had won two titles within 20 minutes.

Her victories, at 200, 400 and 800 metres freestyle, and in the 200 and 400 metre medley races, earned her the Alan Hime Trophy for best woman swimmer of the championships, and the Pat Besford Memorial Trophy for best overall performance.

Referring to her new training regime, under the direction of Rosa Gallop, she said: "This is a guide for next summer, but its obviously proving to work." She has increased her muscle weight in a landwork programme with army pentathletes and swimmers at Arborfield Garrison.

But she emphasised that good short-course performances had little to do with the challenge to be posed by the approaching Commonwealth Games and world championships.

On the form of the last four days, some swimmers have clearly developed ambitions beyond selection. Dave Calleja's Stockport Metro squad is a case in point. On Saturday, James Hickman, 17, set a British record of 1min 57.21sec and capitalised on that last night to beat Fraser Walker in the 200 metres medley. Walker won the silver medal in that event at Palma.

Hickman's team-mates, Graeme Smith, 17, and Philip Stackhouse, 20, finished first and second in the 1,500 metres freestyle last night. While Smith proved his pedigree at Palma with fourth place last week, Stackhouse improved by half a minute to finish less than four seconds behind Smith's time of 15mins 12.20sec.

Karen Pickering, Nick Gillingham and Mark Foster had, respectively, fallen ill, been disqualified, and miscalculated speed in the morning heats. They left for the Sports Review of the Year in London last night as world champions in events in which they are no longer national champions.

RESULTS Men: 1,500m freestyle: 1, G Smith (Stockport Metro), 15:12.20; 2, P Stackhouse (Stockport Metro), 15:16.08; 3, M Clements (Portsmouth Northsea), 15:28.82. Swimmers of the Championships: Alan Hime Trophy: Men: Hickman. Women: Hardcastle. Overall: Pat Besford Memorial Trophy: Hardcastle.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Towers toppled by high-flying Jets

CHESTER Jets may be only a humble team — "boy scouts up from the sticks", according to their coach, Mike Burton — but they were still too knowledgeable for the second year running for London Towers in the third round of the national basketball cup (Nicholas Harling writes). Towers had only themselves to blame for losing 69-61 at the Sobell Centre to opponents they had already defeated twice in Budweiser League fixtures this season. Looking in control with a second-half lead of 44-35, Towers paid for squandering too many free-throw shots.

Russ Saunders scored 32 points for Sunderland before being disqualified from their home tie with Doncaster following a fracas. Doncaster failed to benefit from his absence and went out 83-80. With the help of 34 points from Tracy Pearson, Guildford Kings, the holders, put their European championship troubles behind them, succeeding 92-73 at Oldham.

Star players on hold

ICE HOCKEY: The Department of Employment continues to influence the British season, unscheduled withdrawals of overseas players giving three teams an alibi for defeat on Saturday (Norman de Mesquita writes). Whitley Warriors were forced to drop Tyler Later because of work permit problems and were beaten, 11-5, by Sheffield Steelers.

In the first division, Solihull Barons omitted their Ukranian import, Oleg Posmetive, against Swindon Wildcats, despite earlier assurances that he would play, without a work permit if necessary. John Parkinson, the chairman of the Barons' management committee, said Home Office pressure had prevailed. Swindon won 13-5. Romford Raiders, forced to leave out both Dave Bankoske and Brad Scott, fared even worse, losing 11-0 to Medway Bears.

Shake-up for cycling

CYCLING: The British Cycling Federation (BCF), meeting in Stockport, yesterday agreed a policy restructure described by its president, Ian Emmerson, as "the most momentous decision the federation has ever made." Earlier, the finance and management committee narrowly survived a no-confidence vote, but was told to cut its 1994 spending by £40,000 after a forecast overspend of £50,000 this year. Graeme Obree, of Scotland, who won the world 4,000 metres pursuit championship on his home-made bike, has been awarded the Bidlake plaque for the outstanding cycling performance of 1993.

Hendry on title trail

SNOOKER: Stephen Hendry, the world champion, will today start his challenge for the one big title that has eluded him, the European Open, which begins its seven-day run in Antwerp. The Scot has twice been runner-up in the tournament. Peter Ebdon, who beat Hendry on the way to winning the Skoda Grand Prix in October, will not challenge him, having failed to qualify for the finals; but Ken Doherty and Ronnie O'Sullivan are both here. Docherty is top of the prize money list, while O'Sullivan, the most promising teenage talent since Hendry, became the United Kingdom champion two weeks ago.

Falcons leave it late

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: The Atlanta Falcons overcame a 17-point deficit in the fourth quarter to beat the San Francisco 49ers 27-24 with a 37-yard field goal with 28 seconds left on Saturday. Norm Johnson's winning kick in the National Football League game was set up by the linebacker, Ken Tippins, who recovered a fumble at the San Francisco 18-yard line. Johnson had kicked a 47-yarder with two minutes left to tie the scores at 24-24. Cary Blanchard kicked a 45-yard field goal in the first quarter for the New York Jets, who beat the Washington Redskins 3-0, the lowest league score since 1982.

FOR THE RECORD

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE (NFL). Atlanta 27 San Francisco 24, New York Jets 3 Washington 0.

ATHLETICS

COUNTRY CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS: Bedfordshire (Luton): Men (11.5km): 1, I Hobdell (Hounslow) 39:18; 2, J McMahon (Bedford) 39:18; 3, D Cave (Bedford Harriers) 40.20. Team: 1, Bedford 63. Women (5.7km). 1, E Talbot (Bedford) 20:53. Berkshire (Maidenhead): Men (8 miles). 1, J Hyde (Windsor) 40:38; 2, T Hyde (Windsor) 41:13; 3, N Bull (Newbury) 41:41. Team: 1, Reading 85. Women (4 miles): 1, M Steadman (Bracknell) 23:15. Team: 1, Windsor 26. Buckinghamshire (Aston Clinton): Men (6.5 miles): 1, M Simpson (Hounslow) 32:29; 2, C Addison (Vale of Aylesbury) 33:02; 3, K Miller (Vale of Aylesbury) 33.20. Team: 1, Vale of Aylesbury 35. Women (3 miles) 1, J Leak (Wycombe Phoenix) 17:39. Team: 1, Milton Keynes 17. Devon (Escot Park, Exeter): Men (7.5 miles): 1, I Cornford (Shaftesbury Barnet) 40:19; 2, R Butler (Bideford) 41:25; 3, M Feighan (Exeter) 41:41. Team: 1, Exeter 80. Women (3 miles): 1, H Martin (Plymouth) 24:16. Team: 1, South West Road Runners 31.

Dorset (Poole). Men (7km): 1, T Clark (Poole) 26:43; 2, P Drake (Bournemouth) 27:05; 3, M Hargreaves (Bournemouth) 27:45. Team: 1, Bournemouth 9. Women (5km). 1, A Barnes (Bournemouth) 17.33. Team: 1, Bournemouth 8. Essex (Danbury Park, Chelmsford). Men (6 miles): 1, J Gascoyne (Enfield) 30:46; 2, J Gentry (Newham and Essex Beagles) 31:20; 3, A Mussett (Chelmsford) 31:37. Team: 1, Basildon 87. Greater Manchester (Oldham): Men (12km) 1, P Freary (Bolton) 44:25; 2, P Green (East Cheshire) 44.38; 3, J Brown (Manchester United Salford) 44.44. Team: 1, Salford 63. Women (6km): 1, J Spark (Altrincham) 22:56. Hampshire (Fleet): Men (12km): 1, V Garner (Aldershot, Farnham and District) 37.28; 2, M Gregory (Southampton City) 37:29; 3, Andy Morgan-Lee (Southampton City) 37.36. Team: 1, Southampton City 47. Women (5.2km): 1, K Bailey (New Forest) 19.52. Team: 1, Basingstoke and Mid Hants 20. Hertfordshire (Watford): Men (12km): 1, K O'Connor (Watford) 38:13; 2, J Critchlow (Watford) 38:13; 3, T Osborne (Verlea) 38:31. Team: 1, Watford 56. Women (5km): 1, J MacKay (Shaftesbury Barnet) 16:32. Team: 1, Shaftesbury Barnet 18.

Kent (Gillingham): Men (12km). 1, B Royden (Medway) 38:49; 2, D Smith (Blackheath) 38:59; 3, D Taylor (Blackheath) 38.01. Team: 1, Blackheath 73. Women (5km) 1, T Blake (Blackheath) 19.11; 2, H Heasman (Invicta East Kent) 19.17; 3, D Percival (GEC Avionics) 22:15. Team: 1, Invicta East Kent 29. Lancashire (Blackburn). Men (11.2km) 1, M Croasdale (Lancaster and Morecambe) 38:36; 2, P Banks (Blackburn) 38:44; 3, T Dickinson (Blackheath) 38:53. Team: 1, Clayton Le Moors 135. Women (6.4km): 1, A Thorpe (Hyndburn) 23:55. Team: Hyndburn 14.

Middlesex (Ruislip): Men (7.5 miles): 1, T Mackin (Old Gaytonians) 40:56; 2, B Pochee (Highgate) 40:57; 3, A Jackson (Shaftesbury Barnet) 40:59. Team: 1, Shaftesbury Barnet 51. Women (3.5 miles): 1, A Wyeth (Parkside) 20:59. Team: 1, Hounslow 25. North-Eastern Counties (Middlesbrough): Men (8 miles). 1, C Walker (Gateshead) 38:33; 2, B Rushworth (Sunderland) 38.49; 3, I Hudspith (Morpeth) 40:19. Team: 1, Sunderland 88. Women (3.5 miles): 1, L Harding (Houghton) 21:51. Team: 1, Houghton 17.

Surrey (Camberley): Men (7.5 miles): 1, T Booth (Hounslow) 36.45; 2, G Hill (Thames Hare and Hounds) 36:59; 3, H Brasher (Hounslow) 37:17. Team: 1, Boxhill Racers 68. Women (4 miles). 1, Z Hyde (Woking) 24:58. Team: 1, Belgrave 15. Sussex (Brighton). Men (7.5 miles): 1, A Bristow (Brighton and Hove) 38:02; 2, D Knight 38-08; 3, K Howard (Phoenix) 39-06. Team: 1, Brighton and Hove 38. Women (3.5 miles), 1, J Briggs (Crawley) 17.57. Team: 1, Arena 80. Warwickshire (Coventry): Men (6 miles): 1, S White (Coventry Godiva) 31.31; 2, G Tromans (Coventry Godiva) 31:34; 3, A Symonds (Birchfield) 32.13. Team: Coventry Godiva 37. Women: 1, S Barbour (Birchfield) 23:58. Team: Leamington. Yorkshire (Emley Moor (Huddersfield): Men (11km): 1, R Findlow (Bradford Airedale) 39:19; 2, C Moore (Bingley) 40.41; 3, C Thackeray (Hallamshire) 40:48. Team: 1, Bingley 57. Women (6km): 1, C Greenwood (Bingley) 23:28. Team: 1, Spenborough 32.

CUMBERNAULD INTERNATIONAL: Men (10,000m): 1, T Hanlon (East) 33min 21sec; 2, G Wight (Scot) 34:03; 3, J Robson (Scot) 34:10; 4, C Nicholson (Scot Univ) 34.17; 5, K Chapman (East) 34:21; 6, P Dymoke (East) 34.26: Team (International): 1, Scotland 57pts; 2, Scottish Universities 201. Team (District) 1, East 24; 2, West 70. Women (6,000m). 1, V MacPherson (Scot) 22:08; 2, A Terek (N Ire) 23.21; 3, E Cochrane (Scot) 23.42. Team: 1, Scotland 58; 2, N Ireland 86; 3, West 102.

HOG'S BACK ROAD RACE (Guildford, 9.5km). 1, D Rixon (Bridgend) 45min 39sec (course record); 2, S Brace (Bridgend) 45:39; 3, D Rathbone (Brighton and Hove) 46.32. Team: 1, Bridgend 17. Women: 1, C Horne (Crawley) 53:32; 2, D Newhams (Bridgend) 55:13; 3, A Fletcher (Dulwich Runners) 56.08. Team: 1, Stragglers 54.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (NBA). Friday: Chicago 109 New Jersey 105; Orlando 117 Boston 102; Sacramento 109 Philadelphia 103; Milwaukee 90 Detroit 88; Minnesota 109 LA Clippers 108; Denver 107 Utah 98; Portland 117 LA Lakers 99. Saturday: Charlotte 105 New Jersey 99; Miami 111 Boston 80; New York 98 Indiana 91; Washington 108 Atlanta 116; Minnesota 80 Detroit 92; Chicago 93 Cleveland 84; Dallas 103 Phoenix 114; Houston 82 Seattle 75; San Antonio 105 Denver 100; Milwaukee 86 Philadelphia 89; Golden State 115 Utah 112.

NATIONAL CUP: Third round: London Towers 61 (R Scantlebury 21, Ayinla 15, Taylor 10), Chester Jets 69 (Book 21, Casey 12, Crowe 11). Sunderland Scorpions 83 (Saunders 32, Douglas 15, N Hopper 13). John Carr Panthers Doncaster 80 (Jones 25, Joseph 22, Baker 16). Telecential Hemel Royals 75 (Carty 21, Odaudu 18, Pringle 16), Thames Valley Tigers 98 (P Scantlebury 19, Obaseki 19, Lloyd 17). Ware Rebels 56 (Burnell 17, Zace 14, Martin 11), Leicester City Riders 71 (Trecvant 19, Weldron 15, Harris 10); Oldham Celtics 73 (Merfield 29, Taylor 15, Brooks 14), Guildford Kings 92 (Pearson 34, Duncan 19, Miller 14); Birmingham Bullets 65 (Simms 13, Payne 10), Swindon Sonics 54 (Ahmed 21, Hunt 13); Moor Windows Derby Bucks 80 (Mandt 30, Lascelles 16, Gardiner 11), Blue Circle Worthing Bears 94 (Hamed 26, Irish 25, Lewis 19).

BOWLS

MANCHESTER UNITY LIBERTY TROPHY: Second round: Lancashire 117 Cambridgeshire 121; Lincolnshire 107 Essex 123, Suffolk 104 Cumbria 115; Nottinghamshire 128 Durham 124; Hampshire 123 Cornwall 104; Devon 104 Kent 132; Surrey 114 Buckinghamshire 112; Somerset 136 Worcestershire 93. Quarter-final draw: Cambridgeshire v Essex; Cumbria v Nottighamshire; Hampshire v Kent; Buckinghamshire v Somerset. To be played on January 22.

BOXING

IBF LIGHT-HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP: Düsseldorf: Henry Maske (Ger, holder) bt David Vedder (US), pts.
EUROPEAN MIDDLEWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP: Berck, France: Agostino Cardamone (It, holder) bt Frederic Seiller (Fr), pts.

CRICKET

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Perth: Western Australia 503-8 dec (D R Martyn 197, T M Moody 68; P J S Alley 5-101); New South Wales 73 (B P Julian 5-34) and 177 (M G Bevan 50; J Angel 5-57). Western Australia won by an innings and 253 runs. Hobart: Tasmania 328 (R J Tucker 107) and 178-3 (D F Hills 59). Victoria 329-3 dec (D M Jones 158 not out, B Hodge 106).
CASTLE CUP: Pietermaritzburg: Western Province 300 (E O Simons 96, C A Best 63, A C Dawson 58, P W E Rawson 4-29); Natal 149-4 (N E Wright 66 not out). Bloemfontein: Orange Free State 323 (P J R Steyn 90, L J Wilkinson 72, P J DeFreitas 4-59); Boland 233-4 (K C Jackson 90, W S Truter 78).

CYCLING

CYCLO-CROSS: South of England championship (Lancing, West Sussex, 10.8 miles): 1, B Clarke (Team Raleigh) 1hr 7min 25sec; 2, P Rice (Army CU) at 3min 50sec; 3, Ford (Addiscombe CC), at 5:37. North of England championship (Leeds, 10 miles): 1, R Thackray (Bradford Olympic RC) 55:00; 2, C Young (PCA) at 1:14; 3, T Gould (Schwinn) at 2:25. Midlands championship (Derby, 10 miles): 1, D Baker (Team Raleigh) 56min 30sec; 2, G Foord (Scott International) at 55sec; 3, D Barnett (Ace RT) at 2min 40sec. East of England championship (Lincoln, 8 miles): 1, D Barclay (Biketrax) 58:15; 2, I Burch (CC Romford) at 3:00; 3, M Farrow (Renrad Club, Norwich) at 4:01. Welsh championship (Glasbury-on-Wye, 8 miles): 1, J Winn (Extreme CC) 1hr 01min 05sec; 2, J Rees (Rhondda Valley CC) at 5:40; 3, M James (CC Abergavenny) at 7:00.
MOUNTAIN BIKES: Cannock Chase Christmas Classic (16 miles): 1, P Hinton (Team Raleigh) 1hr 21min 40sec; 2, P Kenning (Flipstar MTB) at 1min 50sec; 3, J Roberts (Supreme Cycles) at 1:52.

GYMNASTICS

CUMBERNAULD: Goodwill Classic: 1, Barks ACA (US) 106.125; 2, Moscow Dynamo 103.525. British: 5, Salto Club, Belfast 100.30; 6, Cumbernauld 99.875; 7, Barry, Wales 99.625; 8, Swansea 97.075; 9, Camberley 95.725.

SHOW JUMPING

GENEVA: Volvo World Cup qualifier: 1, Loro Piana Special Envoy (R Pessoa, Br) clear, 42.8sec; 2, Lugana (S Lauber, Switz) clear, 43.37; 3, San Patrignano Welhaven (F Sloothaak, Ger) clear, 43.72.
PARIS: Port de Versailles grand prix: 1, Hermann's Ballerruit (O Becker, Ger) clear, 30.3; 2, Rochet Rouge (A Ledermann, Fr) clear, 30.48; 3, Royal Rouge (M Malta da Costa, Por) clear, 34.01. British: 7, Everest Major Wager (N Skelton), 3 faults in 1st rnd, 17, Everest Two Step (M Whitaker) 4 in 1st; 23, Everest Grannusch (J Whitaker) 12 in 1st.

GOLF

DURBAN: South African Open: Leading final scores (SA unless stated): 267: A Johnstone (Zim) 64, 69, 69, 65. 274: E Els 66, 70, 68, 70. 276: B Fouchee 69, 69, 69, 69; W Westner 69, 72, 69, 66. 277: J Bland 62, 74, 72, 69; R Goosen 70, 70, 69, 68. 278: C Davison (GB) 66, 69, 74, 69. 280: M McNulty (Zim) 67, 69, 70, 74; I Leggatt (Can) 67, 73, 74, 66; R Lincoln 70, 68, 71, 71. 281: M Jones (GB) 68, 74, 71, 68; W Winsnes 66, 75, 71, 69. 282: R Muntz (Holl) 68, 71, 74, 69. 283: B Lane (GB) 66, 75, 70, 72.
GOLD COAST: Australian Women's Masters: Leading final scores: 211: L Davies (Eng) 68, 74, 69. 212: L A Mills (US), 72, 72, 68; J Geddes (US), 73, 66, 73; M Spencer-Devlin (US) 67, 72, 73. 213: Li Wen-Lin (Taiwan), 69, 74, 70. 214: C Dibnah (Aus), 72, 70, 72; J Sevil (Aus), 75, 71, 68. 215: A Sorenstam (Swe) 69, 73, 73; J Crafter (Aus) 70, 72, 73; K Webb (Aus) 71, 69, 75; K Tschetter (US) 74, 68, 73; C Figg-Currier (US) 71, 69, 75.
AUCKLAND: New Zealand Open: Leading final scores (NZ unless stated): 277: T Price (Aus) 71, 72, 68, 66. 278: M Campbell 68, 71, 73, 66; B Faxon (US) 65, 72, 73, 68; W Riley (Aus) 70, 73, 66, 69. 279: F Nobilo 73, 67, 71, 68; J Wade (Aus) 73, 67, 69, 70; J Woodland (Aus) 67, 71, 71, 70; P Fowler (Aus) 68, 69, 71, 71; D McKenzie (Aus) 72, 67, 66, 74.
DORADO BEACH, Puerto Rico: US Senior PGA Tour Championship: Second-round leaders (US unless stated): 132: D Stockton 66, 66; S Hobday 64, 68; L Gilbert 66, 66. 135: R Floyd 71, 64. 136: J Albus 68, 68. 137: J Kiefer 69, 68, B Murphy 66, 71. 138: D Douglass 70, 68; R Charles (NZ), 69, 69, L Trevino 68, 70.

HOCKEY

PIZZA EXPRESS NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Bournville 1 Welton 1; Bromley 0 Havant 1; Firebrands 0 Cannock 0; Hounslow 7 Canterbury 0; Reading 1 Stourport 0; Slough 0 St Albans 1; Teddington 2 East Grinstead 2; Trojans 0 Indian Gymkhana 2. Postponed: Southgate v Old Loughtonians. Second division: Barford Tigers 1 Oxford University 1; Beeston 2 Guildford 4; Brooklands 1 Sheffield 2; Cheltenham 1 Edgbaston 3; Harleston Magpies 1 Doncaster 1, Isca 0 Gloucester City 2; Neston 4 Richmond 0; Surbiton 7 Cambridge City 1; Warrington 1 Harborne 0.
HOCKEY ASSOCIATION CUP: Third round: Blueharts 0 Bournville 1. Fourth round: Barford Tigers 2 St Albans 3; Beeston 2 Purley 0; Cambridge City 0 Harrogate 3; Crostyx 0 Teddington 2; East Grinstead 3 Edgbaston 1; Firebrands 0 Cannock 2; Formby 0 Warrington 4; Notts Gregory 1 Reading 4; Old Kingstonians 1 Hounslow 7; Southgate 10 York 0; Surbiton 1 Welton 0. Postponed: Old Loughtonians v City of Portsmouth; Stourport v Havant.
NORWICH UNION EAST LEAGUE: Blueharts 0 Redbridge and Ilford 0; Bury St Edmunds 2 Bedford 4, Colchester 2 Ipswich 2; Crostyx 3 Old Southendians 0; Dereham 1 Chelmsford 2; Peterborough 6 Westcliff 0; Stevenage 1 Bishop's Stortford 2.
WEST AND SOUTH WALES LEAGUE: Plymouth 1 Whitchurch 2; Westbury UB 1 Weston-super-Mare 2.
ERNST AND YOUNG NORTH LEAGUE: Alderley Edge 0 Formby 2; Hightown-Northern 0 Norton 3; Timperley 2 Blackburn 1; York 1 Southport 2.
WOMEN'S REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Wales 2 Slough 2 (at Olton).
EAST WOMEN'S LEAGUE: Redbridge 1 Bexleyheath 0.
SOUTH WALES WOMEN'S LEAGUE: Cardiff Athletic 3 St Fagans 0; Porthcawl 3 L and L 1. Postponed: BSC v Old Howerdians; Cwmlawe v Cardiff Institute.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE (NHL): Friday: Buffalo 6 Calgary 2; Florida 5 Winnipeg 2. Saturday: Detroit 5 San Jose 3; Boston 4 Chicago 5; New York 5 Philadelphia 2; Hartford 0 Buffalo 3; New Jersey 5 Edmonton 2; Quebec 5 Ottawa 2; Tampa Bay 3 Pittsburgh 6; Montreal 3 Washington 5; Toronto 3 Calgary 1; Los Angeles 9 St Louis 1.
BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Billingham 5 Peterborough 7; Durham 8 Humberside 6; Fife 4 Cardiff 3; Nottingham 5 Murrayfield 4; Sheffield 11 Whitley 5. First division: Medway 11 Romford 0; Oxford 10 Trafford 13; Paisley 5 Milton Keynes 11; Slough 12 Dumfries 8; Swindon 13 Solihull 5, Telford 6 Blackburn 6.

POWERBOATING

ABU DHABI: World formula one 2-litre championship: 1, F Serrales; 2, F Bocca (It); 3, T Ishikawa (Japan); 4, D Stallard (GB); 5, P Suthin (Thai); 6, P Brolin (Swe). Final standings: 1, G Cappellini (It) 133pts; 2, M Werner (Ger) 73.5; 3, J Jones (GB) 69; Ishikawa 53.5; 5, G Karlos (Swe) 47, 6, S Kerton (GB) 46.5.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Regal Trophy
Third round

Carlisle 34 Bramley 4
Carlisle: Tries: Graham 3, Pape 2, Coffey, Russell. Goals: Richardson 3. Bramley: Try: W Freeman. Att: 582.

Hull 10 Widnes 6
Hull: Tries: G Nolan, R Nolan. Goal: Eastwood. Widnes: Try: McCurrie. Goal: Goulding. Att: 3,421

Oldham 8 Wigan 16
Oldham: Try: McDermott. Goals: Topping 2. Wigan: Tries: Connolly, Panapa, Robinson. Goals: Botica 2. Att: 6,500.

Ryedale York 10 L'don Crusaders 42
Ryedale York: Tries: G Atkins, Close. Goals: Sullivan. London Crusaders: Tries: Roskell 3, Riley 2, Ekoku, Rosolen, Rugless. Goals: Gallagher 5. Att: 741.

St Helens 8 Warrington 16
St Helens: Tries: Cooper, Nickle. Warrington: Tries: Myler, Shelford. Goals: Davies 4. Att: 5,372.

POSTPONED: Batley v Salford, Bradford Northern v Halifax; Castleford v Leigh;
STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: Postponed: Leeds v Sheffield. Second division: Barrow 20, Whitehaven 8. Att: 1,115; Workington 26, Highfield 4.

SWIMMING

GLOUCESTER: ASA winter short-course championships: Men: Saturday: 50m freestyle: 1, N Metcalfe (City of Leeds) 23.71sec; 2, A Ruckwood (City of Birmingham) 23.79; 3, J Golkovic (City of Sheffield) 23.85. B final: 1, M Foster (Barnet Copthall) 22.58. 100m backstroke: 1, M Harris (Borough of Waltham Forest) 54.28; 2, N Willey (Barnet Copthall) 55.51; 3, G Robins (Portsmouth Northsea) 56.59. 200m butterfly: 1, J Hickman (Stockport Metro) 1min 57.21sec (British record); 2, D Warren (City of Leeds) 2:01.75; 3, P Latimer (Warrender) 2:01.83 (Scottish record). 4 x 100m medley: 1, City of Birmingham 3:48.19; 2, City of Leeds 3:50.20; 3, Portsmouth Northsea 3:50.31.

Yesterday: 100m freestyle: 1, A Clayton (City of Leeds) 51.30sec; 2, M Stevens (Satellite) 51.70; 3, M Bowd (Walsall) 51.85. 50m backstroke: 1, N Willey (Barnet Copthall) 25.95; 2, J Hunter (Warrender) 27.18; 3, J Fitzgerald (Beckenham) 27.25. 200m breaststroke: 1, A Clapper (City of Coventry) 2min 14.85sec; 2, I Swift (City of Bradford) 2:15.58; 3, A Ayers (City of Swansea) 2:18.70. 200m medley: 1, J Hickman (Stockport Metro) 2:02.11; 2, F Walker (Warrender) 2:03.22; 3, D Warren (City of Leeds) 2:03.85. 1,500m freestyle: 1, G Smith (Stockport Metro) 15:12.20; 2, P Stackhouse (Stockport Metro) 15:16.08; 3, M Clements (Portsmouth Northsea) 15:28.82. 4 x 100m freestyle: 1, City of Leeds 3:24.88; 2, City of Cardiff 3:27.94; 3, Portsmouth Northsea 3:28.36.

Women: Saturday: 200m freestyle: 1, S Hardcastle (Bracknell) 2:00.08; 2, C Huddart (City of Leeds) 2:02.76; 3, S Colling (Derwentside) 2:03.58. 50m backstroke: 1, K Osher (Barnet Copthall) 29.62sec; 2, E Tattum (Portsmouth Northsea) 29.85; 3, A Bennett (Nova Centurion) 30.02. 100m breaststroke: 1, J King (Tigersharks, Swindon) 1min 10.06sec; 2, K Rake (Maxwell Chipping Norton) 1:10.18; 3, H Gorman (Nova Centurion) 1:11.91. 100m butterfly: 1, S Greenep (Ferndown Otters) 1:02.48; 2, N Goodwin (Nova Centurion) 1:02.54; 3, A Bennett (Nova Centurion) 1:02.74. 400m medley: 1, S Hardcastle (Bracknell) 4:44.02; 2, H Slatter (Warrington Warriors) 4:48.38; 3, C Palmer (Killerwhales, Havering) 4:49.49. 4 x 100m freestyle: 1, Nova Centurion 3:53.94; 2, City of Cardiff 3:54.08 (Welsh record. First leg: M Lock, 57.49sec, Welsh record); 3, Portsmouth Northsea, 3:58.51.

Yesterday: 400m freestyle: 1, S Hardcastle (Bracknell) 4:07.06; 2, V Horner (Derwentside) 4:12.85; 3, S Colling (Derwentside) 4:13.28. 100m backstroke: 1, K Osher (Barnet Copthall) 1:02.08; 2, H Slatter (Warrington Warriors) 1:02.85; 3, J Deakins (City of Coventry) 1:02.93. 200m breaststroke: 1, J King (Tigersharks, Swindon) 2:30.00; 2, K Rake (Maxwell Chipping Norton) 2:33.08; 3, H Gorman (Nova Centurion) 2:33.48. 50m butterfly: 1, A Bennett (Nova Centurion), 28.84sec; equal 2, N Goodwin (Nova Centurion) and K Martin (Stirling), 28.89. 4 x 100m medley: 1, Nova Centurion, 4:17.72; 2, Borough of Kirklees, 4:23.18; 3, Portsmouth Northsea, 4:23.87.

TENNIS

NOTTINGHAM: LTA Reebok Tour: Finals: Men: L Matthews (Hants) bt D Williams (Middx) 6-2, 6-2. Women: N Egorova (Russ) bt E Bond (Gloucs) 6-1, 6-0.

VOLLEYBALL

ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND NATIONAL LEAGUE: Women: First division: Purbrook Portsmouth 2 Ashcombe Guildford Spectrum 3; LEA Leeds 3 Britannia Music City 2; Sale 2 Woolwich Brixton 3, Wessex 1 Dynamo London 3.

SKIING

VAL D'ISÈRE: Men's World Cup: Super-giant slalom: 1, G Mader (Austria) 1min 28.25sec; 2, K A Aamodt (Nor) 1:28.42; 3, T Moe (US) 1:28.61; 4, J E Thorsen (Nor) 1:28.63; 5, D Mahrer (Switz) 1:28.88; 6, A Skaardal (Nor) 1:28.92; 7, M Wasmeier (Ger) 1:29.11; 8, W Besse (Switz) 1:29.13; 9, F Piccard (Fr) 1:29.14; 10, A Fattori (It) 1:29.15. British: 49, M Bell 1:30.41; 59, G Bell 1:30.89. Standings: 1, Mader 100pts; 2, Aamodt 80; 3, Moe 60. Overall World Cup standings: 1, Mader 316; 2, Aamodt 285; equal 3, T Stangassinger (Austria) and A Tomba (It) 180; 5, Piccard 179; 6, J Kosir (Slovenia) 145.
VEYSONNAZ, Switzerland: Women's World Cup: Giant slalom: 1, D Compagnoni (It) 2min 29.86sec; 2, M Ertl (Ger) 2:32.78; 3, V Schneider (Switz) 2:33.83; 4, H Zeller-Baehler (Switz) 2:33.89; 5, K Seizinger (Ger) 2:35.02; 6, E Twardokens (US) 2:35.04; 7, U Maier (Austria) 2:35.14; 8, U Hrovat (Slovenia), 2:35.63; 9, H Voelker (US) 2:35.82; 10, S Panzanini (It) 2:36.14. Standings (after five of nine races): 1, A Wachter (Austria) 380pts; 2, Compagnoni 295; 3, Schneider 275. Slalom: 1, P Wiberg (Swe) 1min 26.16sec; 2, M Galizio (It) 1:26.94; 3, C von Gruenigen (Switz) 1:27.05; 4, B Perez (It) 1:27.07; 5, M Ertl (Ger) 1:27.74; 6, K Andersson (Swe) 1:27.78; 7, G Zingre (Switz) 1:27.88; 8, Wachter 1:28.08; 9, L Magoni (It) 1.28.27, 10, A Plank (It) 1:28.49. Standings (after two of ten races): 1, Wiberg 150pts; 2, Wachter 112; 3, Galizio 109. Overall World Cup standings (after nine events): 1, Wachter 472pts; 2, Schneider 382; 3, Wiberg 330; 4, Maier 309; 5, Compagnoni 295; 6, Ertl 247.
TIGNES, France: Freestyle World Cup: 1, Hemery (Fr) 25.95pts; 2, Cotte (Fr) 24.90; 3, E Grospiron (Fr) 24.84. British: 22, H Hutchison 22.03; 88, Fraser 11.84. Women: 1, Weinbrecht (US) 24.01; 2, Gilg (Fr) 23.97, 3, Marciandi (It) 23.90. British: 35, Curry 16.20; 41, Spalding 10.61.

BIATHLON

SPORTGASTEIN, Austria: World Cup: Men: 10km: 1, P Bailly-Salins (Fr) 33min 14.7sec (1 penalty lap); 2, V Hietalahti (Fin) 33:44.8 (0), 3, W Kirijenko (Russ) 33:55.9. Relay: 1, Belarus 1hr 37min 63.1sec (4 shots missed); 2, France 1:38:00.7 (0); 3, Germany 1:38.09.7. Women: 7.5km: 1, N Santer (It) 32:00.6 (2 minute penalty); 2, H Fossen (Nor) 32:18.6; 3, G M Andreassen (Nor) 32:49.0 (1). Relay: 1, Norway 1hr 50min 21.3sec (1 shot missed); 2, Czech Republic 1:51.28.4 (1); 3, France 1:53.16.0 (3). World Cup standings: Men: 1, R Gross (Ger) 47pts; 2, S Tarasov (Russ) 43; 3, J Passler (It) 41. Women: 1, Santer 60; 2, S Greiner-Petter-Memm (Nor) 48; 3, N Belova (Ukr) 38.

NORDIC SKIING

ST MORITZ, Switzerland: Men's World Cup combined event (ski jumping, 15km cross-country): 1, K Ogiwara (Japan) 231.8pts, 42min 08.32sec; 2, T Kono (Japan) 230.4, 43:05.08; 3, T Einar Elden (Nor) 198.4, 42:29.32. Standings (after three events): 1, Ogiwara 280pts; 2, Kono 210; 3, Einar Elden 205.
SANTA CATERINA VALFURVA, Italy: World Cup cross-country: Women: 5km: 1, E Vaelbe (Russ) 14min 40.2sec; 2, L Egorova (Russ) 15:01.3; 3, S Belmondo (It) 15:04.4. 20km relay: 1, Russia A 1hr 00min 21.2sec; 2, Finland 1:01.03.4; 3, Norway A 1:01:05.1. Men: 30km: 1, V Smirnov (Kaz), 1:22:50.9; 2, T Mogren (Swe), 1:23:33.8; 3, N Jonson (Swe), 1:23:50.8.

SKI JUMPING

PLANICA, Czech Republic: World Cup event: 90m hill: 1, J Weissflog (Ger) 274.7 pts; 2, A Goldberger (Austria) 274.2; 3, E Bredesen (Nor) 270.0. 70m hill: 1, Bredesen 286.5pts; 2, T Okaba (Japan) 285; 3, Goldberger 256. Overall standings: 1, Bredesen 160pts; 2, Weissflog 145; 3, Goldberger 140. Team standings: 1, Japan 280; 2, Germany 276; 3, Norway 252.

CURLING

LES-BAINS: European championships: Men: Final: Norway bt Denmark 7-6. Third place play-off: Switzerland bt Scotland 7-6. Women: Final: Sweden bt Switzerland 8-4. Third place play-off: Norway bt Scotland 8-7.

ICE SKATING

MAKUHARI, Japan: NHK Trophy: Women's singles: 1, S Bonaly (Fr) 2.5 factored placement; 2, Y Sato (Japan) 3.5; 3, Chen Lu (China) 4.0. Pairs: 1, I Brasseur and L Eisler (Can) 1.5; 2, R Kovarikova and R Novotny (Cz) 3.0; 3, Y Kawasaki (Japan) and A Tikhonov (Russ) 4.5. Ice dancing: 1, O Gritschuk and E Platov (Russ) 2.0; 2, I Romanova and I Yaroshenko (Ukr) 4.0; 3, A Stergiadu and J Razgulaev (Uzb) 6.4. Men's singles: 1, P Candeloro (Fr) 2.5; 2, V Zagorodniuk (Ukr) 3.0; 3, A Urmanov (Russ) 4.5.
BASINGSTOKE: Peoples Phone British championships: Junior women free programme: 1, E Foster (Dundonald) 1.0pts; 2, Z Jones (Swindon) 2.0; 3, T Sear (Oxford) 3.0. Overall: 1, Jones 3.0; 2, Foster 3.5; 3, Sear 3.5. Junior men free programme: 1, N Wilson (Dundonald) 1.0; 2, S Bell (Solihull) 2.0; 3, A Garlick (Swindon) 3.0. Overall: 1, Wilson 1.5; 2, Bell (Solihull) 3.0; 3, Garlick 4.5. Junior pairs free programme: 1, N Thomas and D Thomas (Chelmsford) 1.0; 2, V Beckett and B Lock (Chelmsford) 2.0; 3, H Archer and N Simmons (Billingham) 3.0. Overall: 1, Thomas and Thomas 1.5; 2, Beckett and Lock 3.5; 3, Archer and Simmons 4.0.

LUGE

IGLS, Austria: World Cup: Men: Singles: 1, M Prock (Austria) 1min 39.65sec; 2, W Suckow (US) 1.39.88; 3, D Kennedy (US) 1.39.91. Doubles: 1, S Krausse and J Behrendt (Ger) 1:22.056; 2, H Raffl and N Huber (It) 1:22.325. Women: Singles: 1, G Kohlisch (Ger) 1:21.234; 2, J Bode (Ger) 1:21.368; 3, S Erdmann (Ger) 1:21.423.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

FA Carling Premiership
Norwich v Leeds (8.0)

Drinkwise Cup
Quarter-final
Dagenham and Redbridge v Yeovil (7.45)

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Stevenage Borough v Molesey. League Cup: Third round: Carshalton v Bishops Stortford. Carlsberg Trophy: first round: Tring v Hemel Hempstead.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: First division cup: Guiseley v Lancaster. President's Cup: Ashton v Morecambe.
PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Leicester City v Nottingham Forest (7.0). Second division: Mansfield Town v Burnley (7.0). Preston North End v West Bromwich Albion.
NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Bristol City v Charlton; Millwall v Norwich (2.0). League Cup: Bournemouth v Plymouth (2.0).
FA VASE: Third round: Redcliffe Borough v Yorkshire Amateurs.
FA YOUTH CUP: Second round: Blackburn v York; Birmingham v Peterborough.

OTHER SPORT

TENNIS: Midland Bank LTA schools under-15 and under-13 team competition (Telford).

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هكذا من الأصل

Owner responds to criticism by changing allocation of yearlings

Abdulla cuts back interests in France

By RICHARD EVANS
RACING CORRESPONDENT

KHALED Abdulla, one of the world's most successful owners, has reduced by around 25 per cent the number of two-year-olds he will have in training in France next season.

The cut, which affects Andre Fabre, Francois Boutin, Criquette Head and Maurice Zilber, follows an attack on foreign owners by Louis Romanet, a leading French racing official. In October, Romanet singled out Abdulla for winning big races and a substantial slice of French prize-money while having little commitment to French breeding or racing.

The comments by Romanet caused deep offence to the retiring Abdulla, who has always insisted that his racing in any country was condtional on being made welcome. The Saudi prince, whose silks were carried to success in four classics last season, including the Derby and the 2,000 Guineas, let it be known that he was reviewing his French operation in light of Romanet's remarks.

Grant Pritchard-Gordon, racing manager to Abdulla, disclosed yesterday there had been a "noticeable" reduction in the number of yearlings sent to the prince's four French trainers, although he declined to say whether the cutback was due directly to Romanet's broadside.

However, with Abdulla's yearling allocation to British trainers Henry Cecil, Roger Charlton, John Gosden, Barry Hills and Guy Harwood remaining the same, it appears to have been a contributory factor. In Chantilly, there is no doubting the reason for the cuts. Abdulla has sent 15 yearlings to Fabre compared to 20 last year, while Boutin has received five, three fewer than 12 months earlier. Head and Zilber have suffered comparable reductions.

The change comes two years after the low state of British racing persuaded Abdulla to send more horses to France. In 1991, he allocated 60 yearlings to British trainers compared to 80 the year before. French trainers received 53 yearlings against 36 in 1990.

Abdulla is this year distributing around a hundred yearlings, all products of his thriving breeding operation. He did not buy a single yearling at the sales this autumn, thus achieving his ambition of becoming a self-sufficient owner-breeder.

He will have to wait six months before seeing the two-year-olds venture on to a racecourse, but the focus at Cheltenham on Saturday was firmly on March and the National Hunt Festival. Unfortunately, the late withdrawal of Gaelstrom, due to lameness, and Wonder Man, because of the ground, along with the early falls of Granville Again and King Credo in the Bula Hurdle robbed the day of some of its significance.

However, the victory of Staunch Friend from stablemate Halkopous in the Bula Hurdle proved conclusively that Mark Tompkins has two genuine Champion Hurdle contenders. Deciding which is the better horse is impossible — Tompkins backed Halkopous on Saturday — but the race did demonstrate that Staunch Friend does not need muddy conditions for his high cruising speed and finishing acceleration to come into play.

Although Tompkins has unhappy memories of last season's Irish Champion Hurdle at Leopardstown, for which he remains convinced Halkopous was "got at", he is planning to return with Saturday's winner, while Halkopous is pencilled in for the Christmas Hurdle at Kempton.

"We would change how we take Staunch Friend to Ireland," he said. "We would fly in on the day or stay away from the racecourse if we went a few days beforehand."

Staunch Friend is clear 8-1 favourite for the Champion Hurdle with Sporting Index, while Corals offer a generous looking 12-1 behind their 8-1 favourite, Granville Again. William Hill opt for the same market leader at 6-1 (Vintage Crop 7-2 with a run) and have Staunch Friend at 10-1.

Although Ian Balding felt Crystal Spirit was not entirely happy, the young chaser battled admirably up his favourite hill to win the Bonusprint Novices' Chase from Coulton, whose jumping still looks suspect.

ED BYRNE



Coulton leads eventual winner Crystal Spirit over the penultimate fence in the Bonusprint Novices' Chase at Cheltenham. The Glow, right, was third.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: Northern Saddler
(3.15 Newton Abbot)
Next best: Bond Jnr
(12.15 Newton Abbot)

Superbet strategy undermined by flawed thinking

The Superbet, which the British Horseracing Board (BHB) is urging the Tote to introduce in 1994, is a misnomer. Super idea, but a lousy bet.

The trillion-to-one chance of winning a fortune from a small stake has mesmerised almost everyone. Football pools and premium bonds prove the point. The hefty odds against the impending National Lottery failing, exceeded only by the prospect of a successful conclusion to David Sullivan's ambitious attempt to get his hands on Epsom racecourse, underline the attraction.

Within racing the demand for a small stake-big payout bet has been unceasing. Indeed, one of the chief criticisms of the Tote has been its failure to arrange such a wager. Unfortunately, the formula for the Superbet has badly misjudged the potential customer.

Selecting in correct order the first six horses in a given race, as proposed in the Superbet, does not involve skill or supreme knowledge of the form book. Not even Barney Curley at his best, assisted by the Ladbrokes computer and the divine intervention of Phil Bull, would pretend he could come close to picking the first half-dozen home.

The Superbet, as envisaged at present, is down to luck. It is a lottery, a numbers game with less chance than Sullivan of succeeding. There is asimple reason.

No matter how mug the punter, he or she believes deep down that ability to interpret the form or select the right trainer or jockey will lead to success against the bookmaker. The belief in personal skill, not luck or chance, is what keeps punters, and bookmakers, going. Although the odds against winning the Tote jackpot and placepot are high, punters chance their arm because they know skill can prevail. No racing person, or certainly not enough of them, is going to waste time trying to pick the first six.

Perhaps the idea for the Superbet came from France, where the Tierce, Quarte and Quinte are a success. There is a crucial difference. The vast proportion of French people who sit in cafes or bars working out the first three, four or five home have no interest in racing. For them, it is a numbers game.

In their strategy paper published last week, the BHB said its enthusiasm for a Superbet had been reinforced by the success of the £700,000 Tote jackpot won on Cambridgeshire day. Surely, the Superbet should be based on the jackpot, perhaps consisting of races televised by Channel 4 and BBC on a Saturday.

Backers would be required to select the winners of six or seven races, the last being a minimum 12-runner handicap. The success of the Breeders' Cup Pick-7, which has generated enormous interest in the United States since being launched in 1991, underlines the popularity of an exotic accumulator.

The envisaged Superbet should be declared a non-runner and Lord Wyatt devote his time to finding Superbet II.

RICHARD EVANS



Racing commentary

WARWICK

THUNDERER
12.30 Galactic Fury
1.00 Fair Brother
1.30 Mailcom
2.00 Destiny Calls
2.30 Mr Entertainer
3.00 Gray's Ellergy
3.30 Solo Cornet

GOING: SOFT SIS

12.30 YOUNGSTERS CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS NOVICES SELLING HURDLE (£1,473: 2m) (13 runners)

101 JOSEPH'S WINE 48F (Mrs P Bastiman) R Bastiman 4-11-3 H Bastiman —
102 P0- OOZLEM 16F (B) (Mrs W Falett) R Flower 4-11-3 M Hourigan —
103 03 FORGETFUL 10 (R Williams) D Burchell 4-10-12 P McLoughlin (5) 86
104 0P LILIAN MAY GREEN 12 (Arden Racing Club) M Barraclough 4-10-12 M Keighley (7) —
105 1 SOUTHAMPTON 67 (D,F) (Highflyers) G Balding 3-10-9 N Collum (7) 95
106 0601 TOUCH SILVER 10 (D,S) (H Manners) H Manners 3-10-9 M Appleby (5) 91
107 U5 BOLD STAR 10 (J Graham) R Hollinshead 3-10-5 S Wynne 90
108 GALACTIC FURY 75F (L Gilbert) B Stevens 3-10-5 M Stevens (5) —
109 F35105 GROGFRYN 18 (6) (Mrs S Popham) C Popham 3-10-4 R Farrant ●
110 25156 MY SISTER LUCY 17 (6) (Mrs A Jarvis) A Jarvis 3-10-4 G McGrath (5) 90
111 PP ADMIRED 4 (B) (G Mizal) P Murphy 3-10-0 D Matthews —
112 4035 LA POSADA 18 (E Houghton) J Moore 3-10-0 P Moore (5) 95
113 560 SOLAR KNIGHT 66 (The Fun Club) K Bridgwater 3-10-0 W Marston 86

BETTING: 5-2 Southampton, 7-2 Touch Silver, 4-1 Grogfryn, 6-1 Forgetful, 8-1 Galactic Fury, 10-1 others.

1992: QUALITAIR MEMORY 3-10-2 J McCarthy (15-1) J Akehurst 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

FORGETFUL 11l 3rd of 14 to Projects Mate in novices selling hurdle at Hereford (2m 1f, good to soft). SOUTHAMPTON beat MY SISTER LUCY (same terms) 2l in 15-runner novices selling hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, good to firm), with SOLAR KNIGHT (4lb better off) about 3l 6th. TOUCH SILVER beat Bayrak 10l in 7-runner novices claiming hurdle at Nottingham (2m, good to soft). BOLD STAR 19l 5th of 14 to Dont Forget Marie in novices claiming hurdle at Hereford (2m 1f, good to soft). GROGFRYN best recent effort when beating Record Lover 4l in 17-runner selling hurdle at Market Rasen (2m 1f 110yd, good). LA POSADA 13l 3rd of 11 to Kaiko in selling hurdle at Nottingham (2m, good to soft) on penultimate start.
Selection: GROGFRYN

1.00 ETTINGTON HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,742: 2m 4f 110yd) (9 runners)

301 11320-6 BALLY CLOVER 52 (G,S) (Mrs E Roberts) N Henderson 6-11-10 M A Fitzgerald 87
202 32F-45P SENDAI 9 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs M Tolnell) J Gifford 7-11-8 D Murphy 97
203 23144-0 MIZYAN 12 (G) (E Carter) J Banks 5-11-2 S Keightley 96
204 311/010 SUNSET AND VINE 9 (D,G,S) (Sunset & Vine Plc) S Dow 6-11-2 H Davies 92
205 12/2541- SUPER MALT 381 (F,G,S) (F Allison) Miss K Allison 5-10-9 A Maguire 82
206 122F-PF SUPER SPELL 17 (S) (W Calstray) G Ham 7-10-9 J Osborne 80
207 2FFF-13 FAIR BROTHER 14 (BF,G,S) (Mrs S Watts) G Balding 7-10-0 R Davis (3) 92
208 11540-0 MR TAYLOR 13 (D,F,S) (H Collingridge) H Collingridge 8-10-0 V Smith ●
209 F110/0- NOBLE YEOMAN 452 (S) (R G Smith) R Dickin 9-10-0 D Meredith (3) —

Long handicap: Mr Taylor 9-12, Noble Yeoman 9-10.

BETTING: 11-4 Sunset And Vine, 4-1 Fair Brother, Bally Clover, 6-1 Super Malt, 8-1 Mizyan, 10-1 others.

1992: FAIRFIELDS CONE 9-10-11 D Meredith (8-1) R Dickin 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

BALLY CLOVER 13¾l 6th of 7 to Nahar in handicap hurdle at Newbury (2m 110yd, good). SENDAI about 11¼l 5th of 7 to Jopanini in handicap hurdle at Ascot (3m, good) on penultimate start. MIZYAN best form last season when 5½l 4th of 14 to Mazmoor in handicap hurdle at Newcastle (2m 4f, good). SUNSET AND VINE 18¾l 9th of 12 to Land Afar in grade II William Hill Handicap Hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, good to soft). Previously beat Change The Act 1l in 4-runner handicap hurdle at Ascot (2m 110yd, good). SUPER MALT beat Bollinger ½l in 8-runner conditional jockeys handicap hurdle at Newbury (2m 5f, soft). FAIR BROTHER 4l 3rd of 18 to Ikadi in handicap hurdle at Worcester (2m 5f 110yd, good).
Selection: MIZYAN

1.30 BUDBROOKE NOVICES CHASE (£3,678: 3m 2f) (7 runners)

301 P11F-41 MAILCOM 12 (F,S) (Mailcom Plc) Mrs J Pitman 7-11-4 J Osborne ●
302 U4 FLORIDA SKY 9 (A Cohen) J Upson 6-11-0 R Supple 88
303 4034F-2 LOBRIC 18 (F,G) (T Dunsley) J Jenkins 8-11-0 A Maguire 83
304 P ONLY ME 17 (R Seed) J J O'Neill 5-11-0 M Dwyer —
305 400/653 ROYAL SQUARE 12 (G,S) (Park Farm Thoroughbreds) G Harwood 7-11-0 M Perrett 89
306 0/4P00/ WAYWARD SAILOR 779 (Mrs S Newell) J Spearing 7-11-0 W Marston —
307 332400- JUST A SECOND 206 (C Drewe) C Drewe 8-10-9 M A Fitzgerald 86

BETTING: 4-7 Mailcom, 5-1 Royal Square, 6-1 Lobric, 10-1 Florida Sky, 16-1 Only Me, 25-1 others.

1992: DAKYNS BOY 7-11-0 P Scudamore (11-4 fav) N Twiston-Davies 14 ran

FORM FOCUS

MAILCOM beat Glengriffin 1½l in 9-runner novice chase at Huntingdon (3m, good to soft), with ROYAL SQUARE (4lb better off) 6l 3rd. FLORIDA SKY 25l 4th of 11 to Judges Fancy in novice chase at Towcester (3m 1f, soft). LOBRIC 25l 2nd of 8 to Mudahim in novice chase at Nottingham (2m 5f 110yd, good to soft). JUST A SECOND best effort last season when 3¼l 3rd of 12 to Gabriella Mia in novice hurdle at Leicester (3m, heavy).
Selection: MAILCOM (nap)

2.00 HAMPTON JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (3-Y-O: £1,473: 2m) (20 runners)

401 2132 BUGLET 10 (CD,F) (Miss H Pengelly) M Pipe 11-0 D Murphy ●
402 F CATEMPO 29 (Now We Are Five) S Dow 10-12 H Davies —
403 CHAIRMANS CHOICE (Mrs D Brazier) A Jarvis 10-12 T Jarvis —
404 22 DESTINY CALLS 26 (S Harrap) N Gaselee 10-12 C Llewellyn 97
405 0 HOHNE GARRISON 18 (B Allen) J White 10-12 P McLoughlin (7) —
406 U0 HUBERT 13 (L Ballinger) R Manning 10-12 A Flannigan (7) —
407 LEEWA 16F (Footballers' Racing Club) W Muir 10-12 M Richards —
408 LODESTONE LAD (Mrs D Weaver) R Dickin 10-12 D Meredith (3) —
409 04 MORAN BRIG 13 (B) (Redenham Racing Group) G Balding 10-12 S Hodgson 73
410 PHROSE 12F (Mrs S Gay) C Weedon 10-12 D O'Sullivan —
411 0P2 POCONO KNIGHT 18 (Mrs A Jones) C Jones 10-12 G Upton 82
412 POSSUM PICKER (H Cole) H Cole 10-12 S Burrough —
413 SECRET FORMULA 520F (Highflyers) G Balding 10-12 R Davis (3) —
414 0 WOLLBOLL 11 (M Weaver) P Makin 10-12 Richard Guest —
415 P0 LAMBAST 13 (Cheltenham Racing Ltd) D Nicholson 10-7 W Marston —
416 LANZAMAR 48F (R Coombes) R Phillips 10-7 J Railton —
417 NORTHERN JUDY 12F (Mrs J Hughes) R Hollinshead 10-7 S Wynne (3) —
418 RUMPUS 48F (Cherry Tree Racing Club) C Broad 10-7 A Maguire —
419 45 THE SECRET SEVEN 24 (J Cresswell) J Cresswell 10-7 B Clifford 83
420 P WILBURY WONDER 13 (Mrs C Morse) R Brotherton 10-7 D Bridgwater —

BETTING: 9-4 Destiny Calls, 3-1 Buglet, 7-1 Rumpus, 10-1 Phrose, Pocono Knight, Leewa, 14-1 Hohne Garrison, Moran Brig, Secret Formula, 16-1 Lambast, 20-1 Wollboll, 25-1 others.

1992: ELITE REG 11-5 P Scudamore (5-1) M Pipe 14 ran

FORM FOCUS

BUGLET neck 2nd of 7 to My Ballyboy in novice hurdle at Exeter (2m 2f, good). Earlier, beat DESTINY CALLS (7lb better) ½l in 21-runner novice hurdle over course and distance (good), with POCONO KNIGHT (7lb worse off) 32½l 8th. DESTINY CALLS 30l 2nd of 5 to Mysilv in novice hurdle at Kempton (2m, good). HUBERT 46l 8th of 14 to Nawar in novice hurdle at Leicester (2m, soft) with LAMBAST (same terms) 10l 9th and WILBURY WONDER pulled up. MORAN BRIG 29l 4th of 15 to Rich Life in novice hurdle at Fontwell (2m 2f, good). POCONO KNIGHT 6l 2nd of 12 to Al Forum in selling hurdle at Taunton (2m 1f, good), with HOHNE GARRISON (same terms) 58l 8th. WOLLBOLL 46l 9th of 14 to Admirals Well in novice hurdle at Windsor (2m, good).
Selection: DESTINY CALLS

2.30 STONELEIGH HANDICAP CHASE (£4,146: 2m 4f 110yd) (6 runners)

501 25/111-3 WELL WRAPPED 26 (D,G,S) (Lord Chelsea) Miss H Knight 9-12-0 J Osborne 89
502 10F2-54 MR ENTERTAINER 16 (D,F,G,S) (M Boddington) N Gaselee 10-11-6 C Llewellyn ●
503 2F40-F3 BISHOPS ISLAND 11 (S) (Lord Vestey) D Nicholson 7-11-4 A Maguire 97
504 0352-43 SNITTON LANE 17 (D,F,G,S) (H White) W Clay 7-10-9 M A Fitzgerald 95
505 12-4314 MENEBUCK 18 (F,G) (Lady Sarah Clutton) Lady Herries 7-10-4 D Murphy 97
506 13/65-00 WARNER'S END 32 (B,D,F,G,S) (Lady Lyell) J Webber 12-10-0 R Bellamy 70

Long handicap: Warner's End 8-9.

BETTING: 9-4 Bishops Island, 11-4 Well Wrapped, 7-2 Mr Entertainer, 9-2 Snitton Lane, 10-1 Menebuck, 33-1 Warner's End.

1992: CATCH THE CROSS 6-12-0 P Scudamore (11-2) M Pipe 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

WELL WRAPPED over 30l 3rd of 5 to Bibendum in handicap chase at Kempton (2m 4f 110yd, good). Best effort last season when beating Gulburn's Nephew 2½l in handicap chase at Wolverhampton (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft). MR ENTERTAINER 18l 4th of 8 to Egypt Mill Prince in handicap chase at Newbury (2m 4f, good). BISHOPS ISLAND 19l 3rd of 8 to Nevada Gold in handicap chase at Uttoxeter (2m 5f, good). SNITTON LANE 5½l 3rd of 5 to French Charmer in handicap chase at Bangor (2m 4f 110yd, soft). MENEBUCK about 13l 4th of 11 to Nick The Dreamer in handicap hurdle at Windsor (2m 6f 110yd, good). WARNERS END over 30l 10th of 14 to Postman's Path in handicap chase at Towcester (2m 6f, good).
Selection: MR ENTERTAINER

3.00 HOECHST PANACUR E.B.F. MARES NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE (Qualifier: £2,679: 2m 4f 110yd) (19 runners)

601 22/F-312 GRAY'S ELLERGY 10 (BF,G) (W Dore) D Gandolfo 7-11-5 P Holley 97
602 05- BLACK H'PENNY 300 (K Britten) J Old 5-10-12 T Grantham —
603 2-3F530 CRACKLING ANGELS 9 (P Jones) R Buckler 6-10-12 J Osborne 92
604 03/ DAWN CALL 614 (Mrs M Eden) N Smith 6-10-12 Mr N Bradley (7) —
605 DEBBIGENE (M Clarke) D Geraghty 7-10-12 R Supple —
606 2/0F44-2 DOLLY OATS 31 (R Falers) R Eckley 7-10-12 D Gallagher 95
607 00- ESSEN AITCH 327 (Spiers & Hartwell Ltd) Mrs H Parrott 4-10-12 Richard Guest —
608 85 GOSPEL 33 (Mrs J Powell) N Twiston-Davies 4-10-12 C Llewellyn —
609 05 HOT 'N ROSIE 44 (D Gandolfo) D Gandolfo 4-10-12 S McNeill —
610 U060-04 JANET SCIBS 13 (G Bateman) N Ayliffe 7-10-12 W McFarland 79
611 MANDY LOUISE (P Rowbotham) A Jarvis 5-10-12 T Jarvis —
612 0-40 MISS NOSEY OATS 55 (Elias Gale Racing) K Burke 5-10-12 M A Fitzgerald 81
613 00/00 NO DEBT 10 (Mrs P Jabert) B Meehan 5-10-12 M Dwyer —
614 4400- POP FESTIVAL 196 (Mrs J Martin) P Dalton 4-10-12 W Marston —
615 0 QUAGO 61 (Mrs T Lewis) R Buckler 5-10-12 N Parker (7) —
616 4 SKI LADY 35 (J Robson) J Charlton 5-10-12 B Storey 76
617 0 SOLO GIRL 44 (Plough Racing) A Jones 5-10-12 G Upton —
618 338-022 WELSH LUSTRE 7 (Mrs L Lovell) D Nicholson 4-10-12 A Maguire ●
619 30-55 WYJUME 20 (Mrs M Tulnell) J Gifford 4-10-12 D Murphy 70

BETTING: 2-1 Welsh Lustre, 3-1 Gray's Ellergy, 5-1 Dolly Oats, 8-1 Wyjume, 12-1 Crackling Angels, Ski Lady, 14-1 Gospel, Hot 'N Rosie, 16-1 Miss Nosey Oats, 20-1 Black H'Penny, 25-1 others.

1992: IMA DELIGHT 5-10-12 A Carroll (3-1 fav) Mrs P Sly 17 ran

FORM FOCUS

GRAY'S ELLERGY ¾l 2nd of 13 to Texan Baby in novice hurdle at Hereford (3m 2f, good to soft). CRACKLING ANGELS 3¼l 3rd of 8 to Miss Marigold in handicap hurdle at Taunton (2m 3f, good) on penultimate start. DOLLY OATS 3l 2nd of 5 to Fuzzy Logic in novice hurdle at Cheltenham (3m 2f, good). GOSPEL 20½l 6th of 24 to Mister Nova in National Hunt Flat race at Newbury (2m, good) on penultimate start. JANET SCIBS 27l 4th of 6 to Call Home in novice hurdle at Fontwell (2m 6f, good). MISS NOSEY OATS 17l 4th of 13 to Needwood Poppy in novice hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m 6f 110yd, good) on penultimate start. WELSH LUSTRE 7l 2nd of 12 to Nirvana Prince in novice hurdle at Ludlow (2m 5f 110yd, good to firm). Previously, ¾l 2nd of 6 to Carlingford Lakes in novice hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 5f, good to soft), with WYJUME (same terms) 23l 5th.
Selection: GRAY'S ELLERGY

3.30 TEMPLE GRAFTON NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,793: 2m) (14 runners)

1 P06/0 VICAR OF BRAY 10 (The Cleric Partnership) G Balding 6-11-10 S Hodgson —
2 00/3 SWIFT ROMANCE 11 (Hugh Bourn Developments Ltd) G Barnett 5-11-5 A Maguire 93
3 00080-1 PROJECT'S MATE 10 (S) (R Brown) R Brown 6-11-4 P McLoughlin (7) 88
4 0234-31 RED INK 93 (D,F) (J Hughes) J Jenkins 4-11-1 W Walsh (7) 89
5 U00-505 STERLING BUCK 40 (G Yardley) G Yardley 6-10-9 W McFarland 98
6 0006-3 IN THE GAME 18 (G Ashley) Miss A Whitfield 4-10-8 S McNeill 91
7 000/00- ODYSSEUS 261 (R Waley-Cohen) R Waley-Cohen 7-10-7 M A Fitzgerald —
8 004356- ORTON HOUSE 198 (I Pearson) J Charlton 6-10-7 B Storey 97
9 4005-0 ALTISHAR 33 (R Brinkworth) D Gandolfo 5-10-5 P Holley 92
10 84P/PP UNEXIS 9 (D Mullen) S Mellor 8-10-2 Chris Webb (7) —
11 026 HIGHLAND FLAME 11 (A Blackmore) A Blackmore 4-10-2 D Bridgwater 55
12 FPP-062 SOLO CORNET 7 (G,S) (P Bradley) P Bradley 8-10-2 W Humphreys ●
13 P6/P/ ARTIC MISSILE 779 (H Peachey) M Barraclough 6-10-2 Ann Stokell —
14 44P/00P- LETTS GREEN 385 (T Parratt) R Curtis 5-10-2 D Morris —

BETTING: 7-2 Red Ink, 5-1 Swift Romance, 6-1 Solo Cornet, 8-1 In The Game, Project's Mate, 10-1 Highland Flame, Orton House, Sterling Buck, 12-1 Altishar, 14-1 Vicar Of Bray, 16-1 others.

1992: GAELBOIR 8-10-0 W Humphreys (14-1) C Jackson 15 ran

FORM FOCUS

VICAR OF BRAY over 30l 11th of 21 to My Wizard in novice hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, good). SWIFT ROMANCE 13l 3rd of 14 to Comagan in novice hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m, good). PROJECTS MATE beat Chandigarh 3l in novices selling hurdle at Hereford (2m 1f, good to soft). RED INK beat Najeb ¾l in handicap selling hurdle at Worcester (2m, good to firm). IN THE GAME 4l 3rd of 10 to Frankis in novices handicap hurdle at Taunton (2m 1f, good). ORTON HOUSE best effort last season when 18½l 3rd of 6 to Wishing Gale in novice hurdle at Newcastle (3m, firm). ALTISHAR 12l 5th of 13 to Run Fast For Gold in novices handicap hurdle at Taunton (2m 1f, good to firm) on penultimate start. HIGHLAND FLAME ½l 2nd of 8 to Tax The Devil in selling hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, good) on penultimate start. SOLO CORNET 1½l 2nd of 14 to West Monkton in novices selling hurdle at Ludlow (2m, good to firm).
Selection: SWIFT ROMANCE

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
N Gaselee	9	28	32.1	M Dwyer	3	12	25.0
M Pipe	32	120	26.7	A Maguire	7	31	22.6
N Henderson	11	49	22.4	Richard Guest	5	24	20.8
D Nicholson	16	81	19.8	M Perrett	5	27	18.5
J Gifford	8	42	19.0	M A Fitzgerald	4	25	16.0
G Balding	10	60	16.7	J Osborne	10	67	14.9

Marina Park in gallant defeat

MARINA Park, trained by Mark Johnston at Middleham, ran a magnificent race when failing by only a neck against the locally-trained favourite Winning Partners in the £350,000 Hong Kong International Bowl over seven furlongs at Sha Tin yesterday.

Frankie Dettori had Marina Park smartly away and racing in fourth until the straight. They led two furlongs out but were overhauled in the final furlong by the Michael Kinane-ridden Winning Partners.

However, Marina Park, a last-minute substitute for Karinga Bay, collected more than £75,000 for her efforts. The Richard Hannon-trained Swing Low ran on in the straight to finish seventh after a slow start with John Hammond's French challenger, Voleris, in eighth.

Alflora, the only British representative in the £425,000 International Cup over a mile, finished a disappointing twelfth behind another locally-trained winner, Motivation. Michael Kinane had Clive Brittain's Royal Ascot winner in mid-division entering the straight but they could never land a blow.

River Verdon, the favourite and attempting to win the event for a second time, had to settle for fourth.

The Fellow ready for Kempton

THE Fellow is on course for his King George treble attempt, according to trainer Francois Doumen. Speaking at Auteuil yesterday, Doumen said: "The Fellow is in super form and his preparation is going exactly according to plan. He has been working with Algan, who may also run in the King George if the race cuts up.

"The Fellow will probably travel to England on the Thursday before the race, although, as he travels by boat, the date depends on the weather. He is as well as I have ever had him."

☐ Urban Sea, the winner of the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, will stay in training as a five-year-old, trainer Jean Lesbordes said yesterday. Her principal objectives will be the Prix Ganay, the Coronation Cup and an attempt at a second Arc.

NEWTON ABBOT

THUNDERER
12.15 Bond Jnr. 12.45 Baroness Orkzy. 1.15 Freemantle. 1.45 Gulburn's Nephew. 2.15 Mildred Sophia. 2.45 DON'T LIGHT UP (nap). 3.15 Wheeler's Wonder.
The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.15 LOXLEY RANGE.

GOING: SOFT (HEAVY IN PLACES) SIS

12.15 PLYMPTON NOVICES HURDLE (£1,931: 2m 1f) (15 runners)

1 1-31 BOND JNR 9 (S) P Nicholls 4-11-6 G Bradley ●
2 BOLD STROKE 51F M Pipe 4-11-0 R Dunwoody —
3 BROWN ROBBER Mrs R Henderson 5-11-0 Mr W Henderson —
4 /34 EMPIRE BLUE 14 J Bosley 10-11-0 M Bosley 98
5 FENGARI 415F A Aylett 4-11-0 N Williamson —
6 05-0 GREEN'S GAME 9 N Mitchell 5-11-0 C Maude —
7 P0- HOLD IM TIGHT 242 R Frost 5-11-0 J Frost —
8 00-3 KEEP ME IN MIND 14 N Mitchell 4-11-0 D Skyrme 96
9 6-0 MEDINAS SWAN SONG 44 R Hodges 5-11-0 G McCourt —
10 00/ SHADOWLAND 35F M Charles 5-11-0 V Slattery —
11 0 WHYFOR 17 S Knight 5-11-0 Mr N Moore (7) —
12 0-U0 DAVES DELIGHT 4 Miss S Waterman 7-10-9 Mr G Shenkin (7) 70
13 5 KRAKATOA 61 A Forse 4-10-9 R Greene —
14 TENAYESTELIGN 237F D Marks 5-10-9 J McCarthy (5) —
15 P TITIAN MIST 11 R Baker 7-10-9 N Mann —

5-4 Bond Jnr, 9-4 Bold Stroke, 6-1 Keep Me In Mind, 8-1 others.

12.45 TATTERSALLS MARES ONLY NOVICES CHASE (Qualifier: £2,762: 2m 5f) (7)

1 F-11 BARONESS ORKZY 27 (C,S) P Nicholls 7-11-1 R Greene 94
2 P1P- FANTASY WORLD 261 (G,S) J Gifford 7-10-10 E Murphy —
3 -236 HAND OUT 4 R Buckler 9-10-10 Mr G Hogan (7) ●
4 /0P KATIEM'LU 10 M Churches 7-10-10 Mr B Pollock (7) —
5 P-PF NICKLUP 10 (S) T Forster 6-10-10 B Powell 88
6 5406 PRUDENT PEGGY 10 R Frost 6-10-10 J Frost 92
7 -242 THE MRS 13 (F,S) J Mullins 7-10-10 S Earle —

13-8 Nicklup, 3-1 Baroness Orkzy, 5-1 Fantasy World, 6-1 The Mrs, 7-1 Hand Out, 12-1 Prudent Peggy, 33-1 Katiem'Lu.

1.15 SOUTH-WEST RACECOURSES AMATEUR RIDERS HURDLE (Handicap: £2,201: 2m 6f) (6)

1 1353 MOHANA 45 (C,F,G,S) M Pipe 4-12-0 B Dixon (7) 98
2 410P FAR TOO LOUD 4 (CD,F,G,S) Mrs J Retter 6-10-10 J Culloty (7) 96
3 8P0- DECIDED 58F (F,G,S) R Lee 10-10-9 Miss P Jones (5) —
4 0211 CELCIUS 7 (B,C,F,G,S) M Pipe 9-10-2 (5ex) N Moore (7) ●
5 -P06 FREEMANTLE 10 (G,S) R Buckler 8-10-0 G Hogan (7) 98
6 5440 AMPHIGORY 14 (B,F) P Rodford 5-10-0 Miss S Cobden (7) 89

7-4 Celcius, 3-1 Mohana, 4-1 Far Too Loud, 11-2 Decided, 8-1 Freemantle, 14-1 Amphigory.

1.45 TOM HOLT AND REALITY HANDICAP CHASE (£3,355: 2m 5f) (5)

1 -1U2 GULBURN'S NEPHEW 16 (CD,F,G,S) P Hobbs 11-11-10 C Maude ●
2 F412 THATCHER ROCK 11 (BF,CD,F,G,S) P Nicholls 8-10-7 G Bradley 97
3 -143 ZAMIL 2 (CD,G,S) K Burke 8-10-0 DOUBTFUL 95
4 1P-4 HOLY FOLEY 27 (CD,F,S) Miss S Pitman 11-10-0 Guy Lewis (7) 80
5 2332 L'UOMO PIU 27 (F,G) A Barrow 9-10-0 N Williamson 72

4-5 Thatcher Rock, 13-8 Gulburn's Nephew, 10-1 Holy Foley, 12-1 L'Uomo Piu.

2.15 PARRACOMBE SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,814: 2m 1f) (8)

1 0-04 BOOGIE BOPPER 9 (B,D,S) M Pipe 4-12-0 R Dunwoody 88
2 -403 BAYBEEJAY 9 (G) R Brotherton 6-11-1 G McCourt 93
3 -P34 PEACOCK FEATHER 11 (CD,S) K Burke 5-11-0 N Williamson 97
4 6-05 GREAT IMPOSTOR 28 (B) R Hodges 5-10-10 I Lawrence 90
5 5P-0 BEAUFAN 25 (G) B Cambidge 6-10-8 Gary Lyons 91
6 0-02 LOXLEY RANGE 11 (S) R Juckes 5-10-6 N Juckes (7) ●
7 P/P- JOKERS PATCH 391 (S) R Baker 6-10-4 N Mann —
8 /0F MILDRED SOPHIA 10 (C,S) N Mitchell 6-10-0 Miss S Mitchell (7) —

9-4 Loxley Range, 7-2 Peacock Feather, 9-2 Baybeejay, 5-1 Boogie Bopper, 7-1 Great Impostor, 10-1 Beaufan, 12-1 Mildred Sophia, 20-1 Jokers Patch.

2.45 TORPOINT NOVICES CHASE (£3,103: 3m 2f 110yd) (6)

1 1F23 DON'T LIGHT UP 11 (V,BF,CD,S) P Nicholls 7-11-5 G Bradley ●
2 -31U LUCKY LANE 10 (B,F,G) P Hobbs 9-11-5 C Maude 91
3 -450 PUNCHBAG 4 (G,S) G Ham 7-11-0 B Powell 64
4 0-65 JUDYS LINE 18 (S) Miss S Waterman 9-10-9 D Salter (5) 58
5 F6PF KENNY DARLING 10 M Muggeridge 6-10-9 M Ahern —
6 0-PP SHOREHAM LADY 38 S Cole 8-10-9 Lorna Vincent —

4-5 Don't Light Up, 7-4 Lucky Lane, 8-1 Punchbag, 10-1 others.

3.15 PLYMOUTH HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,576: 2m 1f) (8)

1 -045 CORRIN HILL 27 (D,S) R Hodges 6-12-0 R Dunwoody 96
2 2P0- VILLA RECOS 219 (F,G,S) A Barrow 8-11-10 N Williamson 96
3 3U06 WHEELER'S WONDER 11 (F,S) B Llewellyn 4-10-11 Mr J L Llewellyn (7) ●
4 6014 NORTHERN SADDLER 10 (F,G,S) R Hodges 6-10-8 G McCourt 93
5 P0-6 NOVA SPIRIT 88F (C,F,S) M Saunders 5-10-0 B Powell 96
6 /PP HAVE A PARTY 10 (S) Mrs S Williams 6-10-0 N Mann —
7 032- COMEDY RIVER 171F (G) J Spearing 6-10-0 V Slattery 90
8 53-4 MADAM PICASSO 11 N Mitchell 4-10-0 Miss S Mitchell (7) 86

7-4 Northern Saddler, 7-2 Wheeler's Wonder, 5-1 Comedy River, 13-2 Corrin Hill, 8-1 Nova Spirit, 10-1 Villa Recos, 14-1 Madam Picasso, 33-1 Have A Party.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: T Forster, 5 winners from 16 runners, 31.3%; M Pipe, 100 from 331, 30.2%; K Burke, 5 from 17, 29.4%; P Hobbs, 24 from 102, 23.5%; P Nicholls, 7 from 37, 18.9%; G Ham, 11 from 77, 14.3%.
JOCKEYS: G McCourt, 12 winners from 38 rides, 31.6%; N Williamson, 11 from 41, 26.8%; G Bradley, 9 from 34, 26.5%; Lorna Vincent, 7 from 33, 21.2%; R Dunwoody, 20 from 96, 20.8%.

RESULTS FROM SATURDAY'S FOUR MEETINGS

Cheltenham

Going: good (good to firm in places)

12.15 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Large Action (J Osborne, 7-2 jt-fav); 2, Fatack (8-1); 3, Morceli (7-2 jt-fav). Corrouge 7-2 jt-fav. 7 ran. 8l, 4l. O Sherwood. Tote: £3.50; £2.00, £2.50. DF: £8.50. CSF: £25.21.

12.45 (2m 5f ch) 1, Crystal Spirit (J Frost, 15-8 fav); 2, Coulton (9-4); 3, The Glow (9-1). 5 ran. NR: Gaelstrom. 1½l, sh hd. I Balding. Tote: £2.00; £1.30, £1.70. DF: £2.60. CSF: £5.80.

1.20 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Staunch Friend (D Murphy, 6-1); 2, Halkopous (3-1); 3, Muse (14-1). King Credo 2-1 fav. 7 ran. 5l, 1l. M Tompkins. Tote: £5.90; £2.70, £2.30. DF: £8.10. CSF: £21.03.

1.55 (2m 5f ch) 1, Fragrant Dawn (D Murphy, 14-1); 2, Young Hustler (11-2); 3, Freeline Finishing (20-1). Egypt Mill Prince 5-2 fav. 11 ran. 3l, ¾l. M Pipe. Tote: £14.70; £2.70, £1.60, £6.70. DF: £34.30. Trio: £250.40. CSF: £76.75. Tricast: £1,313.34.

2.30 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Dance Of Words (W Marston, 8-1); 2, Satin Lover (3-1); 3, Kadi (5-2 fav). 7 ran. 3l, ¾l. J Johnson. Tote: £12.10; £4.00, £1.90. DF: £13.40. CSF: £29.42.

3.05 (2m 110yd ch) 1, Katabatic (S McNeill, 7-4 jt-fav); 2, Howe Street (9-4); 3, Space Fair (7-4 jt-fav). 3 ran. NR: Wonder Man. ¾l, dist. A Turnell. Tote: £2.10. DF: £2.30. CSF: £4.80.

3.40 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Meditator (S Curran, 11-4, Private Handicapper's top rating); 2, Glasdale (5-2 fav); 3, Jeassu (7-2). 5 ran. NR: The Decent Thing. 2½l, 1½l. Miss J Doyle. Tote: £3.30; £1.70, £1.50. DF: £3.70. CSF: £8.80.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £7,044.25 carried forward to Warwick today).
Placepot: £73.10.

Doncaster

12.40 1, Westholme (4-5 fav); 2, Swift Conveyance (12-1); 3, Bigwheel Bill (11-1). 11 ran.
1.10 1, Frickley (1-2 fav); 2, Stage Player (14-1); 3, Island Gale (25-1). 7 ran.
1.40 1, Carbisdale (15-8); 2, Dublin Flyer (13-8 fav); 3, Docklands Express (11-4). 4 ran.
2.10 1, Puritan (2-1 fav); 2, Creeager (12-1); 3, Spanish Fair (5-1). 7 ran. NR: Balaad.
2.40 1, Strath Royal (4-1); 2, Dual Image (100-30 fav); 3, Nikitas (7-2). 6 ran.
3.10 1, Native Mission (1-3 fav); 2, Toi Manne (25-1); 3, Ramstar (4-1). 6 ran.
3.40 1, Coiled Spring (8-1); 2, Valanos King (10-1); 3, Fed On Oats (9-2). Banoffi 7-2 jt-fav. 17 ran. NR: The Pipe Fitter.

Edinburgh

12.50 1, American Hero (11-8 fav); 2, Imperial Bid (6-1); 3, Lady Donoghue (3-1). 8 ran. NR: The Marmalade Cat, Valley Of Time.
1.20 1, Invertnate (7-2); 2, Moyode Regent (6-1); 3, Clare Lad (10-1). Scottish Gold 11-4 fav. 10 ran.
1.50 1, Major Bell (9-4); 2, Wey I Man (33-1); 3, Irish Stamp (10-11 fav). 9 ran.
2.20 1, Sonsie Mo (9-2); 2, Maudlins Cross (100-30); 3, Cross Cannon (6-1). Rocket Launcher 85-40 fav. 5 ran.
2.50 1, Laplaffe (1-2 fav); 2, Speech (10-1); 3, Mow Creek (5-1). 4 ran.
3.20 1, Mystic Memory (8-11 fav); 2, Rapid Mover (4-1); 3, A Gentleman Two (14-1). 6 ran.

Lingfield Park

12.30 1, Sparkling Sunset (6-4 fav); 2, Squire Silk (7-2); 3, The Bud Club (5-1). 10 ran.
1.00 1, Richville (7-4 fav); 2, Scoton (3-1); 3, Zamil (2-1). 4 ran.
1.30 1, Here He Comes (15-8 fav); 2, Whippers Delight (20-1); 3, Big Matt (5-2). 6 ran.
2.00 1, Martomick (5-6 fav); 2, Fiveleigh First (8-1); 3, Hillwalk (4-1). 5 ran. NR: Mr Flanagan.
2.35 1, Admiral's Well (100-30); 2, Newar (5-4 fav); 3, Grand Applause (14-1). 8 ran.
3.10 1, The Widget Man (9-2); 2, Avonburn (7-1); 3, Mere Class (5-6 fav). 4 ran.
3.45 1, Maneree (4-5 fav); 2, Broughton's Tango (6-1); 3, Storm Drum (13-2). 7 ran.

☐ Wednesday's meeting at Bangor is subject to an inspection at 8.00am tomorrow.

LEADERS OVER THE JUMPS

TRAINERS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Losing sequence	Level stakes
Mrs M Reveley	52	40	26	1	+8.46
K Bailey	40	28	22	1	-11.78
P Hobbs	32	13	20	2	+127.71
J White	32	19	18	22	-29.37
M Pipe	29	35	18	1	-16.97
N Twiston-Davies	28	20	15	3	-16.10
D Nicholson	27	24	18	2	-1.37
O Sherwood	24	15	12	1	+17.74
J Johnson	22	9	7	1	+93.58
G Richards	20	17	14	1	-41.44
J Gifford	18	19	9	1	-10.78
M Hammond	17	22	12	4	-56.79

JOCKEYS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Rides since win	Level stakes
A Maguire	93	63	38	9	+76.24
R Dunwoody	56	66	48	7	-74.79
J Osborne	47	33	29	2	-14.38
P Niven	46	37	28	13	-26.39
N Williamson	46	46	26	1	-27.63
G McCourt	33	25	23	7	-16.70
M A Fitzgerald	30	23	30	0	-34.84
D Murphy	26	26	12	3	-3.66
G Bradley	24	10	11	1	+10.77
L Wyer	23	14	19	1	+23.06
M Hourigan	20	8	15	1	+11.15
D Bridgwater	19	13	18	10	-48.43

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Wark fashions resistance to Hoddle's style of attack


Wark: longevity



Simon Barnes sees Ipswich earn a draw as a veteran gets in the way of a Stamford Bridge revival

The face was expressive, but it was the suit you met first. It hung beautifully. The deep sludge green was picked out by the green of the fashionably loud tie and stylishly emphasised by the tie's dash of pink.

The figure, tall and elegant as ever — too tall to be a world-class footballer, Johann Cruyff brilliantly remarked — was too smooth by half, but the no-longer-boyish face was one that knew about worry. This is Glenn Hoddle in the purgatory of a routine Saturday: manager of Chelsea, and the most accomplished player of his generation.

John Wark would not, I think, argue with that, even if Wark is of the same generation. Both are 36. Not a smoothie. Wark: the man with the barbed wire moustache; barbed wire coif, too. Not a man renowned, as Hoddle is/was, for his exquisite touch on the ball.

Wark has always represented football's more humdrum virtues. To these he has added longevity: he has threatened to play until he is 40. Why stop there? The economical way he played on Saturday in Ipswich's 1-1 draw at Stamford Bridge could make possible all kinds of long-term plans. Though perhaps the worry of management would put him off, if he were ever to take on such a thing.

Wark seems to have been playing for Ipswich since the Pleistocene but, in fact, this is his third spell with the club. He has turned out for them more than 600 times. There he was at centre back, cutting out the through balls and breaking up the one-twos, comfortable enough on the ball without making a thing of it, always composed.

A goalkeeper loves to have that sort of player in front of him: not a lunatic forever sliding about on his back and getting caught out. You know where you are with the Warks of this world and it is a nice, safe feeling, if goalkeepers can ever be said to have nice safe feelings.

He even has a touch of luck going for him, and that is without price. The one time Wark got into trouble, caught in possession by Stein, the curling goal-bound shot was beautifully seen by Forrest in the Ipswich goal and touched away. It was a satisfying afternoon for Wark and Ipswich, unbeaten in half a dozen games.

A happier weekend for Wark than for Hoddle. The best card Hoddle has as a manager is that he can pick himself. The problem is he cannot. He is over his flu, but he has an ankle injury. He is hoping to be back after Christmas; we shall see what state Chelsea are in by then.

Troubles gather about him: a goal-shy attack, and worse, a vote of confidence from his chairman. All that is needed is for the pundits to start saying that Chelsea are too good to go down.

That is unlikely on Saturday's showing. Hoddle's search for excellence seems to have been guided by the line of Yeats: "The best lack all conviction." Hoddle was going to bring beauty and style to the Premiership: on Saturday, in a spritely wind, he had none of your diamond formation nonsense or your fancy foreign sweepers.

We had a brilliant tactical idea called 4-4-2; a tall target man for hopeful high balls, and a little nippy bloke to pick up the rebounds. The goal that gave them a sniff of victory was one Wimbledon used to work regularly in their Southern League days: a near-post flick-on from a short corner bundled over the line by Peacock, uninhibited by the pressures of artistry. It was the first goal Chelsea had scored in 391 minutes of football but not enough to bring them ultimate joy.

The best way of preparing a side for victory is victory: the easiest way to lose is to lose the previous match. Momentum is a powerful fact of footballing physics. Who can arrest Chelsea's Newtonian progress to the foot of the table? Isaac, not Eddie, Newton, of course.

It looked as if Hoddle had tried to make a football team in the image of that dramatic suit of his. He went for style and elegance. True, he had only a bolt of blue denim, but that did not stop him going for it. A quixotic attempt: the style does not suit the cloth.

Ipswich drew level with a clever bit of game-reading from Kiwomya and for most of the second half, a second Ipswich goal looked on the cards. The lovers of stylish football in Chelsea scarves pleaded with the lads to belt the ball into space, just hit it, get stuck in. A drawn game, a drawn Hoddle. He was still shaken by the emotions of the afternoon, after a 30-miniute post-match discussion with his team. He was distressed that "we gave it away. The goal was given away, not taken".

Meanwhile, for Wark, it was a useful day at the office: a bit of composed, constructive defending and a handy slice of luck. Hoddle could do with both those qualities. He needs them quite desperately, in fact. Poor old Hoddle: all that and a vote of confidence from Ken Bates as well. Happy Christmas.

CHELSEA (4-4-2): D Kharine — G Hall, E Johnsen, F Sinclair, M Donaghy — D Hopkin, E Newton, G Peacock, D Wise (sub: C Burley, 69min) — M Stein, A Cascarino.
IPSWICH TOWN (4-4-2): C Forrest — E Youds, J Wark, D Linighan, P Whelan — M Stockwell, S Palmer, G Williams, N Thompson — C Kiwomya, S Slater (sub: B Guentchev, 90).
Referee: A Wilkie.

Cole reaps reward as Newcastle test champions' resolve

Newcastle United.....1
Manchester United.....1

By Rob Hughes
Football Correspondent

THE footballing passion at Tyneside is such a simple, vibrant tidal wave that it seeps into a visitor's soul even as the north-east wind bites into the bone. On Saturday, with the visit of Manchester United, the days of old were in resurgence, and Manchester had to be willing to fight with considerable spirit for the right to display their pedigree.

Given that Newcastle's young bloods, in each department of the field guided by a single older colleague, were prepared to run with a keenness that matched that of the wind, it says a considerable amount for Manchester that they took the lead, and ultimately were disappointed not to win.

This match, though slow to boil because the visitors paid Newcastle the respect of defending heavily for an hour, proved three things. First, Manchester United are by some distance the best team in the land; second, Newcastle's resurgence is in the spirit of their manager, Kevin Keegan; and third, that the junk football of the high ball is being forsaken and where people care about the game, football is again becoming a passing game.

Within such a context it might sound churlish to question anything about Manchester United. And yet there is a growing question about Ryan Giggs. He passed his twentieth birthday last month, the most gifted player of his generation without doubt, and yet it is legitimate to ask if the man will grow to transcend the youth. He will probably win a second championship medal at the end of this season and yet, now that he has a five-year, millionaire's contract, one wonders if he is being persuaded to conform too much.

The much-publicised attempts of Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, to persuade Giggs to work on his passing may merely have put the player into a transitional phase. On Saturday, Giggs, for once, was the senior performer in his area of the field. Whichever flank he attacked, he faced a Newcastle full back who was 19 — on the left, Robbie Elliot had lost 14 months of his formative career overcoming a knee injury. Giggs rarely threatened to take either full back apart.

Yet in its entirety, the encounter on Saturday was dominated by Newcastle. Their tackles, their running were sharper than Manchester's. Their will to please a capacity St James' Park crowd of 36,388 was visible. Newcastle poured forward. Manchester put resilience at the forefront of their team plan. And so only twice in the first hour did Newcastle penetrate, each time through Beardsley, and on the second occasion he was denied by the massive authority of Schmeichel.

Then, after 61 minutes, Ince forsook the ultra-defensive mode of his game. He was the goalscorer when Manchester broke with classic simplicity. Kanchelskis, the substitute for Hughes, found Giggs in the penalty area. Giggs, with no hesitation, nudged the ball back, and Ince took the opportunity with cool and nerveless aplomb.

Had Sharpe been able to capitalise on a wonderful pass from Cantona nine minutes later, even Newcastle's irrepressible spirit would have succumbed, but Hooper, with classic goalkeeping acumen, intervened.

Three minutes later Newcastle superbly and deservedly saved the game. Clark and Watson began the move, Beardsley's pass inside Irwin was measured to perfection and Lee outpaced the Manchester defender to the byline before chipping the ball across towards the six-yard box. Cole, already with 16 goals in the Premiership, made a run towards the near post, but checked back and thus created space and time for himself to score with an apparently simple header.

Keegan said of Manchester United: "Their strength is their weakness — after they had scored so many players wanted to go forward. It's exciting, I'm their greatest fan, and I'm glad they are the champions because others will try to emulate them."

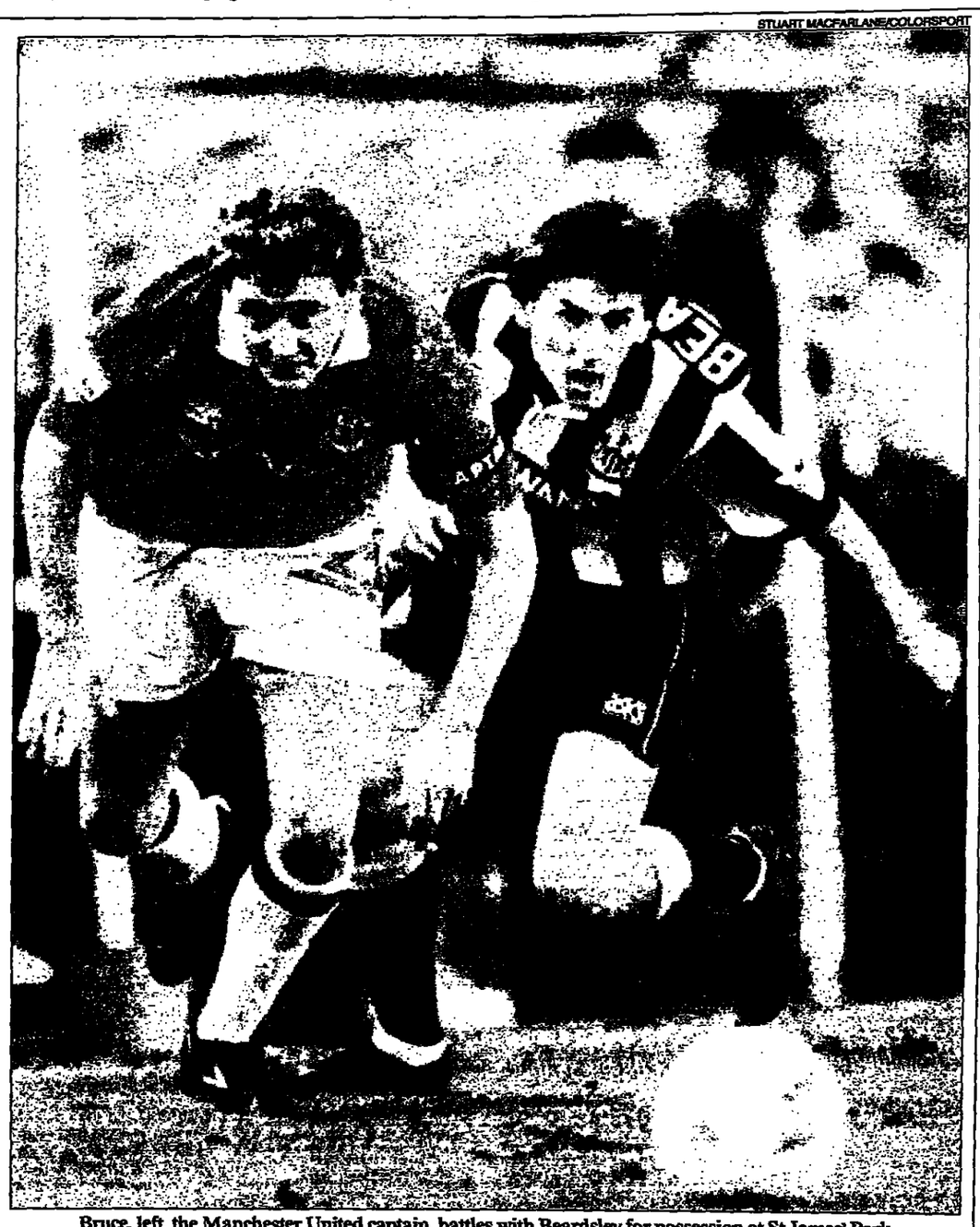
NEWCASTLE UNITED (4-4-2): M Hooper — S Watson, B Venison, S Howey, R Elliot — R Lee, P Bracewell, L Clark, S Sellars — P Beardsley, A Cole.
MANCHESTER UNITED (4-5-1): P Schmeichel — P Parker, S Bruce, G Pallister, D Irwin — I. Sharpe, E Cantona, P Ince, B McClair (sub: R Keane, 77min), R Giggs — M Hughes (sub: A Kanchelskis, 56).
Referee: K Hackett.

PREMIERSHIP AT A GLANCE

		Played	Points	Goal diff	Recent form
1	Manchester Utd	20	49	+24	DWDWD
2	Leeds	19	36	+12	DDWWW
3	Blackburn	19	35	+9	WWLWW
4	Arsenal	20	34	+5	DWLDW
5	Newcastle	19	32	+16	WWLWD
6	QPR	20	31	+6	LDDLW
7	Aston Villa	20	31	+3	LLDDL
8	Liverpool	19	30	+7	LWLWD
9	West Ham	20	29	-2	DWWLW
10	Norwich	17	28	+9	DWDLD
11	Tottenham	20	26	+5	DDLDW
12	Ipswich	20	26	-5	DWDWD
13	Everton	20	25	-4	DDWLD
14	Wimbledon	19	25	-5	LDDLW
15	Sheffield Wed	20	24	+3	WWWDL
16	Coventry	19	23	-3	DLLWL
17	Manchester City	20	19	-6	DLLWL
18	Oldham	20	18	-16	LWDWL
19	Sheffield Utd	20	17	-13	LWDWD
20	Chelsea	19	15	-10	LDLLD
21	Southampton	20	14	-13	WLLLL
22	Swindon	20	11	-25	WLDLD

Weekly change Up Stayed the same Down

STUART MACFARLANE/COLORSPORT


Bruce, left, the Manchester United captain, battles with Beardsley for possession at St James' Park

West Ham let off by linesman

West Ham United.....3
Coventry City.....2

By Keith Pike

COVENTRY'S previous match in the capital had brought a 5-1 defeat against Queens Park Rangers and prompted Bobby Gould to resign in the toilets at Loftus Road. On Saturday it was the turn of Phil Neal, Gould's successor as manager, to be flush with indignation over Coventry's fate.

Outplayed to an alarming degree by West Ham, Coventry would have had few complaints if they were again heavily beaten. Instead, with 11 minutes left, they trailed only 3-2 when they were victims of one of the season's more bizarre decisions or, more accurately, non-decisions.

Atherton, whose fine distribution from the back had helped spark Coventry's revival, again judged his range to perfection with a long ball down the right that left Williams, probably the speediest player in the Premiership, in competition with Gale, who certainly is not. It was no contest. Williams hurtled into the area and was promptly upended by the West Ham central defender.

In a season in which the merest contact in the penalty box has often been penalised, this was as clear-cut a decision as an official is likely to get, and while Keith Cooper, the referee, did not have the best view of the incident, his linesman did. Amazingly, the flag stayed down, and West Ham held on.

"It was a blatant penalty," Neal said, finding no dissenting voices, even within the West Ham camp. "I don't blame the referee but the linesman was in a great position and didn't give it."

Coventry showed a corruptive lack of inspiration. Wegerle, fresh from an outspoken attack on Arsenal's lack of ambition, should perhaps examine his own contribution to this match, terminated after an hour by Neal. Wegerle looked as if he would rather have been elsewhere. With Ndlovu and Quinn also peripheral figures, Coventry created desperately little. Their two goals came from only four noteworthy attacks.

West Ham's season has been in direct contrast. Their last 11 league games have brought six victories, only two defeats and just seven goals against.

The impact made by Chapman, Burrows and Marsh since their arrival in September has been frequently acknowledged, but on Saturday it was the performance of a less celebrated figure that caught the eye. Peter Butler's CV — Huddersfield Town, Cambridge United, Bury and Southend United — may not rival Chapman's but here is a player with immense talent.

It was Butler's brilliant instep control of a dropping ball that created West Ham's opening goal, finished decisively by Breacker, and his ability to combine power with precision that enabled him to score the second himself. He exchanged passes with Marsh and Morley in turn without breaking stride, before shooting in via a post. Morley's second-half penalty should have made the game safe, but Darby, whose first goal for Coventry had halved West Ham's lead, struck again with a marvellous diving header.

WEST HAM UNITED (4-4-2): L Miklosko — T Breacker, S Potts, A Gale, D Burrows — M Marsh, I Bishop (sub: M Allen 84min), P Butler, M Holmes — L Chapman, T Morley.
COVENTRY CITY (4-4-2): S Ogrizovic — P Atherton, D Rennie, P Babb, S Morgan — S Flynn, J Darby, W Boland (sub: C Marsden, 70), P Ndlovu — R Wegerle (sub: J Williams, 69), M Quinn.
Referee: K Cooper (Ponypridd).

Gascoigne scores in winning comeback for Lazio

By Our Sports Staff

PAUL Gascoigne capped his comeback for Lazio with the final goal in their 3-1 win over Juventus in Rome yesterday. It was the England midfield player's first game since September 19 and, more significantly, eased fears for his future at the club, which has more than its quota of overseas players.

Gascoigne dominated the midfield as Lazio took control of the game through goals from Signori and Boksic, the new Croat striker, after Fortunato had equalised in the 54th minute.

Gascoigne scored the decisive third goal in the final minute of the first match he has played from start to finish this season. The ball rebounded off the Juventus goalkeeper, Peruzzi, and landed at the feet of Gascoigne, who gratefully accepted the chance.

The former Tottenham Hotspur and Newcastle United player said last week that he was determined to stay at Lazio and yesterday's victory boosted his chances of winning his battle for acceptance in Italy.

The win put Lazio into sixth place and stopped Juventus from going top of Serie A.

Internazionale, the last team Gascoigne played against, stopped Sampdoria going out alone at the top with a 3-0 win at San Siro stadium. Goals in the first half from Battistini, an own goal by Jugovic and a second-half penalty by Bergkamp put Internazionale level with Juventus on points.

In Tokyo, AC Milan, the Italian champions, lost the final of the Intercontinental Cup to São Paulo, of Brazil, who retained the trophy with a 3-2 win.

Milan dominated much of the play, but the Brazilians made the best of their opportunities.

The game appeared destined for extra-time with four minutes to go when Muller scored after a quick break.

☐ Angry Sunderland supporters demonstrated for more than 90 minutes after the first division game at Grimsby was abandoned after only six-and-a-half minutes.

The referee, Stephen Lodge, let the match go ahead after speaking to both managers, but admitted later: "In hindsight, it should not have started."

About 1,500 travelling supporters demanded their money back — but instead, were issued with vouchers that will allow them to watch the rearranged fixture free.

There was surface water on large parts of the Blundell Park pitch and the match kicked off in a blizzard.

Players were skidding around and Lodge was forced to call a quick halt.

Evertonians obliged to look to brighter future

Sheffield United.....0
Everton.....0

By Oliver Holt

THE Liverpudlian half of Merseyside still rages at the dying of its light, but as the flame Howard Kendall lit in his first managerial stay at Goodison Park flickers ever more faintly, Evertonians seem left only with a residue of apathy and their old favourite, self-deprecating humour, to sustain them.

While Kendall stayed, there was enduring hope that he would pull off another master-stroke like the signing of Andy Gray in the early 1980s.

But what he termed his second marriage to Everton gradually turned sour, and of late even he had begun clutching at straws.

Resigning last week because the board had blocked his attempt to sign Dion Dublin from Manchester United seemed, to continue his own analogy, rather like leaving one's wife because she has forgotton to buy an inconsequential item of shopping. Everton desperately need a tall partner for Tony Cottee in their attack, but it is difficult to imagine Dublin having quite the galvanising effect of Gray.

Perhaps because of the money troubles weighing the club down, the search for a successor to Kendall has been greeted with a palpable lack of enthusiasm. There is sceptisism about Bobby Robson's fitness for the task, muted admiration for Peter Reid's passion, and doubt about whether Joe Royle would leave the modest surroundings of Boundary Park. As the players call for a quick appointment, the board says it refuses to be rushed.

There is also sympathy and respect for Jimmy Gabriel, the caretaker-manager, an honest and courteous man who is not seen as a serious contender for the permanent job.

Gabriel said: "It is extremely difficult for all the players. One minute they have won a game and they have a manager who is a legend. The next they are driving home and they hear he has quit and then I'm there telling them I'm in charge. They have reacted like true professionals."

Despite the general paucity of entertainment, there were good moments. Warzycha and Cottee linked well, and Ebbrell and Ward refused to abandon their short-passing style despite the sterility of the encounter.

Everton have now won just twice in their last 12 games; United have scored once in six matches, and a kind of sleeping sickness fell over Bramall Lane's lowest crowd of the season.

Jackson, the Everton full back, produced the game's finest piece of skill in the dying seconds, chipping the ball between two defenders and bearing down on goal. But with a perverse sense of occasion, the referee, Vic Callow, blew the final whistle before he had a chance to shoot.

SHEFFIELD UNITED (4-4-2): A Kelly — K Gage, J Hoyland, D Tuttle, R Nilsen — P Rogers, W Falconer, C Bradshaw (sub: A Scott 83min), G Hodges (sub: A Cork 83) — R Donlavon, J Pile.
EVERTON (4-4-2): N Southall — M Jackson, D Watson, I Snodin, G Atkins — M Ward, G Stuart, P Beagrie, J Ebbrell — A Cottee, R Warzycha.
Referee: V Callow.

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act. Poor old Hoddle all
and a vote of confidence
n Ken Bates as well
ppy Christmas.

Gascoigne scores n winning comeback for Lazio

By Our Sports Staff

Charlton's year ends under cloud of defeat

Charlton Athletic	0
Portsmouth	1

By Peter Robinson

THIS has been a momentous year at Charlton. On December 5, 1992, they returned to The Valley after years as reluctant tenants at other grounds and celebrated with a cloud of balloons and a 1-0 defeat of Portsmouth. It was the start of a new era, an era that is quickly taking shape as the old ground is rebuilt and the FA Carling Premiership beckons.

The new beginning, however, suffered an untimely jolt yesterday. The afternoon that Charlton were hoping would see them return to the top of the first division of the Endsleigh Insurance League in front of an admiring television audience turned out to be something of a damp squib: very damp.

The armchair spectators were more numerous than expected, thanks to the postponement and abandoning of games elsewhere, but they could only sit in sympathy as Charlton were denied their moment of glory by an organised, obdurate Portsmouth side and a steady deluge that left their intelligent football struggling in the mud. On another day, perhaps, the game might have been abandoned and certainly both teams deserved better conditions in which to display their abilities. For The Valley, read The Puddle.

In the circumstances, the game could only ever be a battle against the elements and it was a battle Portsmouth were always more likely to win. Bigger, stronger, with a determined five-man defence, they coped far more easily with the heavy pitch and tellingly kept it simple when they could. Charlton, for all their efforts, found the three centre halves confronting them too big an obstacle to overcome.

The theory goes that such conditions do, at least, provide plenty of excitement. The ball behaves like an errant bar of soap and mistakes are everywhere and that was the case on this occasion. Sadly, there was only the one goal and that arrived within eight minutes of the start.

Paul Walsh exchanged passes with McLoughlin on the left and though Doling appeared to have wasted the little forward's cross in front of goal, Neill was following up to slip the ball into the far corner. Charlton, could, probably should, have been level before the break, but after Nelson's appeals for a penalty had been rightly ignored and Robinson had rattled a post, their challenge faded.

Awford gradually snuffed out Robinson's threat and Charlton seemed unable to find an alternative. By half-time, Portsmouth left the field rueing misses by Durnin and Gittens. The second period had less to offer. Charlton pressed forward. Portsmouth held firm and the rain teemed down without relent.

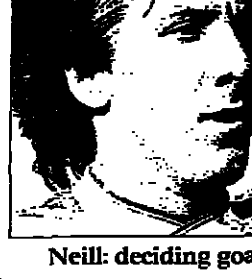
With Paul Walsh full of ideas and vision up front and Durnin a willing partner, Portsmouth were quite happy to sit back and try their luck on the break. There was little reason to do anything else. Both players should have scored before the end.

Although Charlton's pressure increased as the final whistle approached, only rarely did they threaten a breakthrough and an occasional threat never looked as if it was going to be enough. Alan Curbishley, one of the Charlton managers, admitted that the conditions had played their part.

He said: "Nobody could fault the players. They did well and it was a decent game. We started OK, could have gone in front, got hit with a classic counter-attack and could not get back into the game."

Roger Alwen, Charlton's chairman, took the wider view: "It's been a tremendous year for Charlton Athletic. The team has done brilliantly to be second in the table in the course of this year and that is a fantastic achievement."

CHARLTON ATHLETIC (4-4-2): M Salmon — S Balmer, A McLeary, P Chapple, S Minto — J Robinson, P Garland (sub: M Robson, 58min), D Pitcher, C Walsh — C Leaburn, G Nelson (sub: S Newton, 80).
PORTSMOUTH (5-3-2): A Knight — W Neill, J Gittens, K Symons, G Butters, A Awford — S Doling (sub: L Russell, 75), A McLoughlin, B Kristensen — P Walsh, J Durnin.
Referee: R Gifford.


Neill: deciding goal


IAN STEWART
Heath sways away from trouble prior to being sent off after time wasting when his side was 1-0 down

Clear case for second opinion

Burnley	0
Reading	1

By Russell Kempson

USE of the elbow must be eliminated from English football. Everyone is agreed, from the ruling powers to the highly-paid performers. The Mabbutt-Fashanu incident, still rumbling through the corridors of the Football Association, has highlighted an offence too often lightly dismissed.

Yet what happens when the referee and linesmen miss the contact of bone on bone, as in Fashanu's collision with Mabbutt at White Hart Lane last month, and the alleged misconduct goes unpunished? Should that be the end of the affair — the referee, warts and all, being the sole arbiter of matters — or should justice be seen to be done by video replay, FA trial and subsequent verdict?

And what happens when the referee believes he has spotted a jutting elbow, as at Turf Moor on Saturday, and then sees the crumpled heap of an injured player as evidence enough to send off the culprit? Should his genuine yet spur-of-the-moment decision stand, despite overwhelming opinion to the contrary, or should it, too, be called to the court of football law for considered review?

The solution, in each case, is clear. While referees will always retain their ability to govern and impose on-the-spot sanctions, the illegal thrust of the elbow — or not — must be taken to higher office. Only calm analysis can apportion blame or exonerate.

Thus Fashanu will be a free man or damned in the next two weeks. Thus John Humphrey, the Reading defender, who was making his debut on loan from Crystal Palace, should have the chance to plead and prove his innocence of raising little more than a protective arm.

Terry Heilbron was unequivocal over the clash in the 63rd minute that saw Humphrey prematurely abandon his new colleagues. Was it for violent conduct? "Yes," he replied. Use of the elbow? "Yes."

Humphrey, retreating from a throw-in when he collided with Thompson, the Burnley full back, claimed it was unintentional. Mark McGhee, the Reading manager, agreed. Even Thompson, nursing a sore jaw to go with the suspected broken nose he sustained in the first minute, conceded there was no malice. "It was heat of the moment stuff," he said. "A little tussle, probably an accident. Nothing really."

Adrian Heath, the Burnley forward, also fell foul of Heilbron's rigid and unsympathetic enforcement of the rules, which produced five yellow cards, two red, a total of nine minutes injury-time and free kicks from *precisely* the right places. As Burnley forlornly chased a late equaliser to Gooding's 26th-minute header, he chipped in over Hislop, the Reading goalkeeper, fractionally after being judged offside.

Having already booked Taylor, the Reading midfield player, for similar misuse of time and having previously cautioned Heath for a brush with Hopkins, Heilbron left himself no option. "I tried to give the ball back to the keeper," Heath said. "Why should I be trying to waste time when we're losing 1-0 and there's only a few minutes left? It was ridiculous."

Reading, cultured and composed, stretched their lead at the top of the second division to three points, despite being numerically challenged for 23 minutes. Result-wise, justice was done, elbow-wise, Humphrey should have a second hearing.

BURNLEY (4-4-2): M Beresford — M Monington (sub: A Randall, 65min), S Davis, J Pender, L Thompson — J Francis, W Joyce, J Deary, D Eyres — A Heath, K Russell (sub: J Mullin, 71).
READING (4-1-4-1): S Hislop — J Humphrey, J Hopkins, A Williams, D Kerr — M Gooding — S Taylor, K Dillon (sub: U Hartenberger, 53), P Parkinson, M Gilkes — J Quinn.
Referee: T Heilbron.

Calypso band pounds out winning note for Cadette

CALYPSO Christmas might sound like an attempt to oust Mr Blobby in the ghastly battle for No 1 in the charts. Instead, it came to mind as an apt title for the tableau which emerged when jollity and foul weather were combined at Fir Park for yesterday's B and Q Cup final. In the pre-match entertainment steel drums were pounded as the snow fell.

It was a quirky scene for a puzzling tournament. Competitions like this began to spring up in the England of the late 1980s. The marketing value was apparent. We all have now heard of a Zenith Data System, even if nobody is quite sure what it might be. In footballing terms, however, there is always a risk that such events will be derided as trophies for losers.

The cynicism would not have survived a trip to Motherwell yesterday. The B and Q Cup is confined to clubs in Scotland's first and second divisions.

The followers of Falkirk and St Mirren, though, would not allow the final to be a minor-league occasion. Kick-off was even delayed while many of the 13,763 crowd prised themselves off the motorway.

In their own way, the contents of the pitch were as impressive as those of the stands. It cannot be assumed that the lower divisions must always be sub-standard. One St Mirren midfield player has a Cup Winners' Cup medal. It is all of ten years since John Hewitt's goal for Aberdeen defeated Real Madrid.

The veteran started this game in gloves but quickly discarded them, as if indicating that he is still prepared for raw, bare-knuckle contests. Apart from excellent players in their sporting dotage, games such as this can also feature entertainers who lack some attribute required at higher level.

Richard Cadette has come no closer to the game's upper reaches than a spell with Sheffield United years ago. Scouts probably note his lack of height or power and move on to the next name on their checklist. Those who linger, though, have the satisfaction of watching a clever, effective forward.

Yesterday, Falkirk supporters positively gloried in his elusiveness, for he struck the goal which guaranteed victory. They already led, through a Neil Duffy header. Cadette had tiptoed away from his marker and received the ball in space before racing on to score from an awkward angle. A third goal, from John Hughes, was enjoyable but scarcely essential.

Those of a Falkirk persuasion celebrated wildly at full-time but elsewhere in Scotland it was a weekend of consternation. It had seemed that one of the prime purposes of the B and Q Cup was to ensure that there was at least one trophy which could not end up in Rangers' possession.

Saturday's 3-0 defeat by Dundee United, though, left everyone wondering whether last season's treble winners will let the league championship slip from their grasp. It is difficult to find a precedent in recent years for such a beating at Ibrox.

Aberdeen did win there by the same margin in 1989 but that was more of a day-off than an off-day for Rangers. They were in recreational mood, having already secured the title.

On Saturday Rangers could not even compete in a match of significance. They were one goal down in a matter of seconds and utterly routed when a third went in before 21 minutes had passed. The visitors were inspired, playing precise football, but Rangers's inability to defend themselves was even more significant. The disarray was overwhelming.

Ian Ferguson was sent off for spitting at United's Gordan Petric. Ferguson faces a lengthy suspension, while the injured Gough and McPherson will be out for weeks.

For the moment Rangers appear to be no more than an elderly team with problems.

KEVIN McCARRA



Scottish Commentary

WEEKEND RESULTS AND TABLES

FA Carling Premiership

A VILLA (0) 0 WIMBLEDON (0) 1 — Holdsworth 77 — 17,940
CHELSEA (1) 1 IPSWICH (0) 1 — Peacock 24; Kiwomya 56 — 12,508
LIVERPOOL (0) 2 SWINDON (0) 2 — Barnes 71 Wright 86; Moncur 60 Scott 73 — 32,739
MAN CITY (0) 0 TOTTENHAM (0) 2 — Dozzell 64, 88 — 21,566
NEWCASTLE (0) 1 MAN UTD (0) 1 — Cole 71; Ince 59 — 36,388
OLDHAM (1) 1 BLACKBURN (1) 2 — Holden 40; Shearer 27, 49 — 13,887
SHEFFIELD U (0) 0 EVERTON (0) 0 — 15,135
SOUTHAMPTON (0) 0 QPR (1) 1 — Ferdinand 2 — 11,946
Sent off: Ready (QPR), 88 min
WEST HAM (2) 3 COVENTRY (1) 2 — Breacker 11 Butler 40 Morley 59 (pen) Darby 41, 77 — 17,243

Yesterday
ARSENAL (0) 1 SHEFFIELD WED (0) 0 — Wright 90 — 22,026

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Man Utd	30	7	3	0	21	8	8	1	1	19	8	49
2 Leeds	19	7	1	1	21	11	3	5	2	12	10	36
3 Blackburn	19	5	3	2	12	8	5	2	2	14	9	35
4 Arsenal	20	6	3	2	14	8	3	4	2	5	3	34
5 Newcastle	19	6	2	2	21	7	3	3	3	14	12	32
6 QPR	20	5	3	1	19	11	4	1	6	15	17	31
7 Aston Villa	20	4	2	4	10	10	4	5	1	13	10	31
8 Liverpool	19	7	2	2	20	11	2	1	5	10	12	30
9 West Ham	20	5	3	3	11	10	3	2	4	7	10	29
10 Norwich	17	2	3	2	3	4	5	4	1	24	14	28
11 Tottenham	20	3	4	2	14	9	3	4	4	12	12	26
12 Ipswich	20	3	4	3	8	11	3	4	3	10	12	26
13 Everton	20	4	1	4	10	13	3	3	5	10	11	25
14 Wimbledon	19	3	4	2	11	9	3	3	4	10	17	25
15 Sheff Wed	20	3	5	2	18	13	2	4	4	14	16	24
16 Coventry	19	4	4	2	9	8	1	4	4	11	15	23
17 Man City	20	2	4	4	11	14	2	3	5	8	11	19
18 Oldham	20	2	4	4	11	16	2	2	6	4	15	18
19 Sheff Utd	20	3	4	3	11	12	0	4	6	7	19	17
20 Chelsea	19	3	3	4	8	9	0	3	6	4	13	15
21 Southmptn	20	3	1	6	12	16	1	1	8	6	15	14
22 Swindon	20	1	4	5	9	19	0	4	6	8	23	11

TENNENTS SCOTTISH CUP: First round: Albion 0 Huntly 0; Cowdenbeath 1 Queen's Park 1. East Fife 5 Rothes 0. Forfar 8 Queen of South 1. Ross County 11 St Cuthbert 0; Stranraer 3 Whitehill 3.

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Basingstoke 1 Enfield 2, Chesham 3 Harrow 0; Dulwich 0 Wivenhoe 1; Grays 0 Kingstonian 3; Hendon 2 Aylesbury 2. Marlow 0 Carshalton 6. Molesey 1 Hitchin 2; St Albans 2 Wokingham 0. Stevenage 4 Dorking 3; Sutton Utd 0 Hayes 1: Yeading 2 Bromley 3. First division: Abingdon 1 Berkhamsted 0; Billericay 0 Tooting and Mitcham 1. Bognor Regis 0 Windsor and Eton 1. Boreham Wood 2 Barking 3. Heybridge 6 Croydon 0: Leyton 2 Purfleet 1. Maidenhead 0 Staines 1: Uxbridge 0 Ruislip 0. Walton and Hersham 2 Bishop's Stortford 2. Wembley 1 Chalfont St Peter 0; Whyteleafe 3 Worthing 2. Second division Barton 0 Witham 3. Egham 4 Lewes 0: Hungerford 2 Chertsey 1; Leatherhead 2 Aveley 3. Match postponed: Banstead v Tilbury. Third division: Camberley Rainham v Hampton. Third division: Camberley 2 Feltham 0, Harlow 1 Hertford 0, Hornchurch 2 Cove 1; Horsham 0 Harefield 1. Kingsbury 1 Tring 1; Northwood 2 Epsom 4; Oxford 3 Royston 2. Southall 0 East Thurrock 0.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Chelmsford 0 Cheltenham 1; Farnborough 1 Atherstone 0. Gloucester 2 Corby Town 4, Gresley Rovers 0 Dorchester 2; Halesowen 2 Bashley 0; Hastings 3 Worcester 2. Hednesford 1 Sittingbourne 1; Moor Green 0 Cambridge City 1: Nuneaton 2 Crawley Town 1: Trowbridge 3 Burton 2. Waterlooville 2 Solihull 2. Midland division: Armitage 0 Yate Town 3; Dudley Town 5 Leicester Utd 0; Evesham Utd 2 Newport 4; Grantham Town 1 Forest Green 1: Hinckley Town 1 Tamworth 2; RC Warwick 2 Bilston Town 2: Stourbridge 1 Bedworth Utd 3: VS Rugby 4 Redditch Utd 1: Weston-super-Mare 2 Sutton Coldfield Town 0 Southern division: Burnham 0 Margate 2: Bury Town 4 Wealdstone 0; Fareham Town 1 Witney Town 2: Fisher 93 0 Salisbury City 2: Gravesend and Northfleet 1 Dunstable 0: Havant Town 3 Baldock Town 1; Sudbury Town 3 Canterbury City 1. Weymouth 3 Erith and Belvedere 0 Match postponed: Ashford Town v Braintree Town.

Endsleigh Insurance League
First division

BARNSLEY (1) 1 PETERBOROUGH (0) 0 — Payton 45 — 6,209
C PALACE (2) 2 BIRMNGHM (1) 1 — Southgate 19 Salako 45; Saville 44 — 11,295
LEICESTER (2) 3 BRISTOL C (0) 0 — Speedie 13, 61 Joachim 45 — 13,394
LUTON (0) 0 TRANMERE (0) 1 — Aldridge 64 — 7,045
NOTTS CO (0) 1 MILLWALL (0) 3 — Lund 47; Rae 65, 73, 82 — 6,516
OXFORD UTD (0) 0 BOLTON (0) 2 — Kelly 69 Thompson 72 — 5,559
SOUTHEND (0) 0 WEST BROM (0) 3 — Hamilton 61 Taylor 67 Hunt 78 — 6,807
STOKE (2) 3 MIDDLSBRO (0) 1 — Regis 18 Orlygsson 32, 69; Peake 70 — 13,777
WLVRHMPTN (2) 2 WATFORD (0) 0 — Bull 25 Dennison 33 — 17,460

Yesterday
CHARLTON (0) 0 PRTSMOUTH (1) 1 — Neill 9 — 6,975

Match abandoned: Grimsby v Sunderland (0-0, after six minutes). Match postponed. Derby v Nottingham Forest.

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Tranmere	21	8	1	1	23	10	4	3	4	11	12	40
2 Charlton	20	7	2	2	17	6	4	3	2	8	9	38
3 C Palace	20	7	2	1	20	8	4	2	4	18	15	37
4 Millwall	21	6	3	1	18	10	4	3	4	12	16	36
5 Leicester	20	8	3	1	22	10	4	2	4	9	8	35
6 Southend	20	5	3	2	17	9	5	1	4	17	18	34
7 Portsmouth	21	8	2	2	16	9	3	5	3	14	19	34
8 Stoke	20	7	0	3	16	10	3	3	4	16	22	33
9 Derby	18	7	0	2	21	13	2	3	5	10	19	30
10 Bristol City	21	5	3	2	14	8	3	3	5	11	16	30
11 Nottm Forest	19	4	3	2	14	12	4	2	4	15	13	29
12 W'hampton	20	4	5	1	19	11	2	4	3	14	12	28
13 Bolton	20	4	3	2	14	10	3	3	5	13	15	27
14 Notts Co	20	7	1	2	19	11	1	1	8	8	23	26
15 Middlesbro	19	3	3	3	13	8	3	3	4	13	15	24
16 West Brom	19	5	3	2	23	16	1	2	6	9	15	23
17 Grimsby	20	2	7	1	11	6	2	3	5	13	17	22
18 Sunderland	20	5	1	4	15	11	1	2	7	4	19	21
19 Barnsley	21	2	2	7	10	19	3	3	4	16	20	20
20 Luton	20	5	0	5	16	12	1	2	7	7	16	20
21 Birmingham	20	4	3	4	13	18	1	2	6	7	14	20
22 Oxford Utd	20	4	2	4	15	15	1	2	7	9	22	19
23 Watford	20	4	3	3	16	16	1	1	8	8	23	19
24 Peterboro	19	3	4	3	12	10	0	2	7	4	17	15

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: First division: Goole 2 Netherfield 0; Worksop 1 Congleton 4 Postponed: Curzon Ashton v Warrington Town: Harrogate v Mossley. Challenge Cup: Second round: Accrington Stanley 6 Guiseley 4; Barrow 2 Buxton 3; Boston 6 Fleetwood 0, Bridlington 4 Bishop Auckland 7, Eastwood 1 Knowsley 1; Emley 3 Lancaster 0; Frickley 0 Gretna 1: Gainsborough 0 Colwyn 2: Horwich 1 Gt Harwood 1, Hyde 4 Matlock 0: Morecambe 5 Chorley 2: Spennymoor 3 Marine 0. Whitley 2

Second division

BARNET (1) 2 PORT VALE (0) 3 — Haag 8 Rowe 57; Foyle 52 Kerr 75 Taylor 87 — 3,100
BRADFORD (0) 0 BRNEMOUTH (0) 0 — 4,407
BRENTFORD (2) 3 BLACKPOOL (0) 0 — Gayle 24 Mundee 34, 84 — 4,769
BRISTOL R (1) 1 L ORIENT (1) 1 — Taylor 33; Cooper 13 — 4,604
BURNLEY (0) 0 READING (1) 1 — Gooding 26 — 11,650
Sent off: Humphrey (Reading), 62 min, Heath (Burnley), 87 min
CAMBRIDGE U (0) 0 STCKPRT (0) 0 — 3,239
CARDIFF (0) 1 FULHAM (0) 0 — Blake 66 — 5,120
HARTLEPOOL (1) 2 BRIGHTON (0) 2 — Southall 15 Honour 83 (pen); Codner 54 Bissett 89 — 1,558
Sent off: McGuckin (Hartlepool), 49 min
HUDDRSFLD (1) 2 ROTHERHAM (0) 1 — Starbuck 35 (pen) Onuora 82; Varadi 57 — 4,994
PLYMOUTH (2) 2 HULL (0) 1 — Burnett 21 Castle 44; Windass 82 — 8,460
WREXHAM (1) 3 SWANSEA (0) 2 — Owen 19 Taylor 53 Bennett 55; Torpey 74, 86 — 2,762
YORK (3) 3 EXETER (0) 0 — Barnes 11, 30 (2 pens) Cooper 14 — 2,409
Sent off: Whiston (Exeter), 11 min

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Reading	19	7	2	0	20	8	6	2	2	24	13	43
2 Stockport	19	8	0	1	23	5	4	4	2	11	10	40
3 Bristol R	19	5	4	1	16	10	5	1	3	10	8	35
4 Port Vale	19	6	2	1	23	9	4	2	4	14	14	34
5 Plymouth	19	7	2	1	21	10	3	2	4	16	16	34
6 Blackpool	20	8	1	1	22	11	2	2	6	13	20	33
7 Burnley	19	8	1	1	24	10	2	1	6	8	14	32
8 Hull	19	5	2	2	16	8	4	1	5	17	22	30
9 Brentford	19	5	3	2	12	7	3	3	3	10	9	30
10 Wrexham	19	6	3	1	25	14	1	3	5	8	17	27
11 B'mouth	18	4	3	2	12	10	3	3	3	8	9	27
12 Bradford	19	5	2	3	18	11	2	3	4	12	18	26
13 L Orient	19	4	3	2	13	9	3	2	5	10	16	26
14 York	19	4	2	4	15	10	3	2	4	9	11	25
15 Exeter	19	5	2	2	23	16	1	4	5	7	21	24
16 Cambs Utd	19	4	3	3	13	10	2	3	4	12	17	24
17 Swansea	19	6	3	1	16	9	1	2	7	7	20	23
18 Cardiff	18	3	3	3	17	15	1	5	3	10	16	20
19 Huddersfield	19	3	3	4	9	13	2	2	5	10	15	20
20 Rotherham	19	2	3	4	12	15	2	3	5	12	18	18
21 Hartlepool	20	3	2	5	10	12	1	3	6	8	15	17
22 Brighton	19	1	5	3	7	11	2	2	6	10	21	16
23 Fulham	19	1	2	6	7	13	3	1	6	12	16	15
24 Barnet	19	1	1	8	10	18	1	1	7	8	26	8

Winsford 0 Match postponed: Alfreton v Droylsden; Leek v Caernarfon; Ashton v Farsley.

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Chester-le-Street 1 Blyth 7; Consett 6 Brandon 1; Eppleton 1 Billingham S 6; Guisborough 3 Tow Law Town 1; Hebburn 4 Stockton 2; Newcastle Blue Star S 2 Dunston 3, Northallerton 3 Shildon 0; Seaham 1 Whitby 1; West Auckland 0 Ferryhill Athletic 3. Match postponed: Durham v Brandon.

Third division

BURY (1) 1 SCUNTHORPE (0) 0 — Carter 44 — 2,389
CARLISLE (1) 4 DONCASTER (2) 2 — Davey 43 Walling 63 Edmondson 84 Thomas 86; Hulme 8 Page 14 — 4,245
Sent off: Roche (Doncaster), 69 min
CHESTER (0) 3 WYCOMBE (0) 1 — Rimmer 53 Leonard 77 Pugh 81; Hemmings 79 — 3,195
COLCHESTER (1) 2 CREWE (1) 4 — English 43 Brown 64; Rowbotham 17, 52 Gardiner 77 Whalley 89 — 2,547
DARLINGTON (2) 3 LINCOLN (1) 2 — Himsworth 18 Painter 24, 71; Johnson 30 Matthews 47 — 1,936
GILLINGHAM (0) 1 ROCHDALE (1) 2 — Forster 87; Lancaster 32, 47 — 2,493
Sent off: Baker (Gillingham), 23 min
MANSFIELD (1) 1 NRTHMPTN (0) 0 — Holland 5 — 2,491
PRESTON (0) 2 SCARBOROUGH (2) 2 — Bryson 49 Ellis 85 (pen); White 27 Whittington 29 — 6,290
WALSALL (0) 0 SHREWSBURY (1) 1 — Spink 36 — 4,979
WIGAN (0) 1 TORQUAY (3) 3 — Kennedy 57; Foster 27 Sale 32 Curran 45 — 1,232

Match postponed. Hereford v Chesterfield.

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Crewe	18	8	1	0	22	8	3	3	3	16	16	37
2 Preston	18	7	1	2	28	14	4	2	2	17	15	36
3 Chester	18	5	2	2	12	6	5	0	4	19	12	32
4 Walsall	18	4	3	3	18	12	5	2	1	8	4	32
5 Wycombe	18	4	2	2	15	11	4	5	1	17	15	31
6 Shrewsbury	18	3	3	2	10	9	5	2	3	19	15	28
7 Rochdale	18	5	2	2	16	6	3	2	4	14	13	28
8 Torquay	18	2	7	0	17	14	4	2	3	15	14	27
9 Scunthorpe	18	4	3	1	17	8	3	3	4	8	8	27
10 Doncaster	18	5	1	2	13	9	3	1	6	9	15	26
11 Bury	18	6	2	1	20	9	1	2	6	9	18	25
12 Lincoln	18	4	2	3	14	15	3	2	4	15	18	25
13 Mansfield	18	5	1	3	12	12	2	3	4	10	17	25
14 Colchester	18	6	1	3	22	19	1	1	6	13	25	23
15 Chesterfield	17	5	1	3	13	9	2	1	5	10	20	23
16 Carlisle	18	3	3	3	16	13	2	4	3	9	7	22
17 Gillingham	18	4	4	2	15	11	1	2	5	7	14	21
18 Scarboro	18	2	0	6	9	15	3	3	4	12	16	18
19 Wigan	18	2	2	5	17	21	2	2	5	9	17	16
20 Hereford	17	3	1	5	17	17	1	2	5	10	23	15
21 Darlington	18	3	3	4	15	14	0	2	6	7	18	14
22 N'hampton	18	2	3	3	10	11	0	2	8	8	24	11

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Denaby 2 Pontefract 3; Pickering 0 Hucknall 1; Sheffield 2 Eccleshill 2. Match postponed: Ashfield v Ossett Town; Glasshoughton v North Ferriby Utd; Liversedge v Winterton; Ossett Albion v Armthorpe.

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Blackpool 0 Skelmersdale 1; Burscough 3 St Helens 2; Darwen 1 Newcastle 2; Salford 1 Flixton 2. Match postponed: Chadderton v Bootle; Kidsgrove v Prescot; Maine Road v Bradford; Rossendale v Clitheroe.

JEWSON LEAGUE: Premier division: Chatteris Town 2 Norwich Utd 1; Fakenham 1 Felixstowe 4; Gorleston 2 Tiptree 3; Histon 1 Great Yarmouth 1; Lowestoft 0 Haverhill 0; Stowmarket 0 Cornard 2: Watton 0 March 2; Wroxham 4 Harwich and Parkeston 0. Match postponed: Sudbury v Newmarket.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Swansea 1 Exeter 4. Match postponed: Yeovil v Bristol Rovers.

FA VASE: Third round: Thackley 2 Lincoln 1; Cammell 2 Glossop 3; Oadby 2 Ponteland 0; Nantwich 2 Bacup 0; Belper 2 Brigg 1; Penrith 0 Atherton 1; Whickham 1 Bamber 0; Dunkirk 2 Maltby 1; Wisbech 1 Collier Row 2; Great Wakering 3 Hinckley 3; Northampton Spencer 1 Cogenhoe 2; Boston 6 Bedford 1; Ford 1 Diss 2 (aet); Saffron Walden Town 1 Raunds 4. Bridgnorth 3 Cheshunt 1; Soham 3 Brimsdown 0; Buckingham 1 Kings Lynn 2; Eastwood 1 Arlesey 2; Canvey 2 Corinthian 1; Taunton 2 Barnstaple 0; Elmore 1 Thame 2; Croydon 0 Paulton 2; Tonbridge 0 Tiverton 1; Aldershot 1 Malden 0 (aet); Tunbridge Wells 2 Torpoint 6; Clevedon 3 Wimborne 4 (aet); Bracknell 1 Newbury 2, Banstead 1 Peacehaven Town 0 (aet), Falmouth 3 Andover 1 (aet); Whitehawk 3 Metropolitan 2 (aet); Pelsall 0 Halstead 0 (abandoned). Match postponed: Radcliffe v Yorkshire.

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Portsmouth 1 Arsenal 3

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Arsenal 3 West Ham 3; Cambridge Utd 0 Norwich 1; Chelsea 3 Charlton 1; Gillingham 1 Tottenham 2; Ipswich 1 Fulham 1; Leyton Orient 4 Portsmouth 1; QPR 9 Southend 0; Watford 1 Millwall 4. Second division: Brentford 1 Bournemouth 0, Brighton 1 Bristol Rovers 1; Bristol City 1 Southampton 1; Luton 2 Swindon 0; Oxford Utd 5 Colchester 1, Tottenham 2 Reading 3; Wimbledon 2 Crystal Palace 4.

SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE: First division: Winchmore Hill 2 Carshalton 1; South Bank Poly 3 West Wickham 1; Lensbury 1 Nat West Bank 2; Old Esthameians 2 Midland Bank 2; Broomfield 2 Kew Association 3; Old Parkonians 2 Polytechnic 3; Old Latymerians 2 Lloyds Bank 0; Old Westminster Cz 1 Cuaco 5; Brentham 4 Reigate Priory 0; Old Parmiterians 0 Bank of England 0; Merton 0 Old Lyonians 4; Barclays Bank 4 Alleyn OB 3; Old Salesians 6 Royal Bank Scotland 2. Match postponed: Old Stationers v Old Bromleians.

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Aberystwyth 4 Porthmadog 3; Caersws 3 Ebbw Vale 0; Haverfordwest 0 Connagh's Quay 0; Maesteg Park 1 Llansantffraid 0; Newtown 1 Cwmbran 0. Match postponed: Mold v Conwy.

GM Vauxhall Conference

KETTERING (0) 0 GATESHEAD (0) 0 — 1,783
KDDRMNSTR (1) 3 DOVER (0) 0 — Davies 11, 72 Deakin 73 — 1,379
MACCLSFLD (0) 1 STALYBRIDGE (2) 3 — Alford 70; Shaughnessy 4, 20, 80 — 788
MERTHYR (0) 0 DAGENHM & R (0) 0 — 478
SLOUGH (1) 3 RUNCORN (0) 0 — Scott 11 Sayer 48, 75 — 575
SOUTHPORT (0) 1 TELFORD (0) 0 — Withers 47 — 902
STAFFORD (1) 1 WITTON (0) 0 — Burr 18 — 580
WOKING (2) 4 BATH (1) 1 — Dicks 20 (og) Wye 24 Rattray 54, 60; Brooks 17 — 1,463
YEOVIL (1) 2 BROMSGROVE (1) 3 — Sherwood 4 Leonard 55; Carter 17, 74, 82 — 1,721

Matches postponed. Altrincham v Welling; Halifax v Northwich.

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 K'minster	19	7	2	1	14	3	3	1	5	12	15	33
2 Southport	19	5	4	1	16	11	4	2	3	14	13	33
3 Kettering	17	4	4	0	7	2	4	3	2	10	5	31
4 Dover	18	7	1	1	16	5	2	1	6	9	15	29
5 Slough	20	6	1	3	18	12	1	5	4	[illegible]	10	27
6 Welling	16	4	2	3	9	7	3	3	1	9	5	26
7 Stafford	18	6	1	3	20	13	1	4	3	8	13	26
8 Woking	17	6	2	2	19	12	1	3	3	6	14	26
9 Bath	18	3	3	4	18	14	3	4	1	17	6	25
10 Merthyr	18	3	6	0	13	5	2	4	4	13	16	25
11 Runcorn	18	6	1	2	21	12	0	6	3	10	16	25
12 Macclesfield	18	4	2	4	18	14	3	0	5	9	18	23
13 Dag & Red	15	4	3	0	15	7	1	3	4	5	12	21
14 Yeovil	19	4	2	4	15	12	1	4	4	10	17	21
15 Bromsgrove	15	1	4	2	12	11	4	1	3	13	15	20
16 Gateshead	16	2	3	1	8	5	3	2	5	12	18	20
17 Northwich	17	2	5	1	8	7	2	3	4	7	16	20
18 Witton	19	3	4	2	12	11	1	3	6	4	13	19
19 Halifax	17	2	5	1	14	8	1	4	4	14	21	18
20 Stalybridge	14	1	3	3	8	10	1	5	1	17	6	14
21 Altrincham	18	2	3	3	6	9	1	2	5	5	10	14
22 Telford	15	0	4	2	6	9	1	2	6	5	16	9

Scottish League
Premier division

DUNDEE (1) 1 CELTIC (0) 1 — Ristic 38; Creaney 63 — 8,250
HIBERNIAN (0) 3 MOTHERWELL (0) 2 — Wright 56 Findlay 69 Mitchell 85; Coyne 60, 68 — 7,442
KILMARNOCK (1) 1 RAITH (0) 0 — Brown 24 — 6,012
RANGERS (0) 0 DUNDEE UTD (3) 3 — Bowman 1 Connolly 15 Brewster 21 — 43,058
ST JOHNSTONE (2) 2 HEARTS (0) 0 — Scott 26 Davies 34 — 4,612

Match postponed: Aberdeen v Partick Thistle.

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Rangers	22	5	2	4	17	15	5	5	1	15	9	27
2 Celtic	22	5	5	1	12	4	3	5	3	15	13	26
3 Aberdeen	21	6	4	0	18	3	1	7	3	10	13	25
4 Motherwell	21	6	3	2	15	9	4	2	4	11	12	25
5 Hibernian	22	6	3	2	15	10	3	4	4	14	16	25
6 Kilmarnock	22	3	6	2	10	9	4	4	3	10	9	24
7 Dundee Utd	22	3	7	1	12	10	3	5	3	12	13	24
8 Partick	21	4	4	3	14	11	1	5	4	12	17	19
9 Hearts	21	4	4	2	11	8	1	6	5	3	9	19
10 St J'stone	22	4	3	4	15	14	1	5	5	4	12	18
11 Raith	22	2	6	3	13	18	1	4	6	11	21	16
12 Dundee	22	3	4	4	13	13	1	0	10	8	19	12

First division

BRECHIN (0) 0 AIRDRIE (0) 2 — Ferguson 50 Reid 84 — 671
CLYDE (1) 2 DUMBARTON (0) 1 — Sludden 45 Strain 74; Mooney 56 — 600
CLYDEBANK (0) 0 DNFRMLNE (1) 3 — McCathie 1 Laing 78 McWilliams 84 — 2,018
STIRLING (0) 0 AYR (0) 0 — 826

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Airdrie	22	6	4	1	18	9	7	1	3	19	10	31
2 Dunfermline	21	8	0	2	30	9	5	3	3	18	10	29
3 Falkirk	20	8	2	2	17	12	5	4	1	18	8	28
4 Clydebank	22	6	3	2	18	14	5	3	3	19	10	28
5 St Mirren	21	4	1	5	9	11	5	4	2	17	13	23
6 Hamilton	21	6	2	2	21	10	2	4	5	11	22	22
7 Ayr	21	3	4	4	10	13	4	3	3	8	7	21
8 Stirling	21	5	3	3	15	15	3	1	6	11	19	20
9 Dumbarton	22	3	3	5	14	17	4	1	6	13	18	18
10 Clyde	22	4	2	5	11	12	1	2	8	8	22	14
11 Morton	21	2	5	4	11	15	1	3	6	10	22	14
12 Brechin	22	3	1	7	9	20	0	1	10	5	24	8

B and Q Cup final

FALKIRK (0) 3 ST MIRREN (0) 0 — Duffy 47 Cadette 48 Hughes 65 — 13,763 (at Motherwell)

ALLBRIGHT BITTER WELSH CUP: Fourth round: Barry Town 4 Holywell 0; Briton Ferry 2 Flint Town 2; Porthcawl 1 Inter Cardiff 1. Ton Pentre 2 Bangor 2.

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Ards 2 Crusaders 4; Bangor 5 Carrick 1; Cliftonville 1 Omagh Town 1; Glenavon 5 Ballyclare 2; Glentoran 0 Distillery 2; Linfield 5 Coleraine 0; Portadown 5 Ballymena 0. Match postponed: Newry v Larne.

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Cobh Ramblers 0 St Patrick's Athletic 1, Derry City 3 Bohemians 0; Drogheda Utd 0 Cork City 5; Shamrock Rovers 2 Monaghan Utd 1. Match postponed: Limerick v Galway Utd.

FRANCE: Auxerre 1 Caen 0; Cannes 2 Bordeaux 1. Le Havre 1 Marseille 3; Lyon 1 Angers 1; Martigues 1 Montpellier 1; Metz 1 Sochaux 1; Monaco 1 St Etienne 1; Nantes 4 Toulouse 0; Paris St Germain 2 Strasbourg 0; Lens 1 Lille 1.

GERMANY: Bayer Leverkusen 1 Wattenscheid 1, Freiburg 4 Borussia Dortmund 1; Kaiserslautern 1 Eintracht Frankfurt 1; Karlsruhe 2 Cologne 0; Leipzig 1 Werder Bremen 1; Schalke 1 Hamburg 0; Nuremberg 2 Borussia Mönchengladbach 4; VfB Stuttgart 4 Duisburg 0; Dresden 1 Bayern Munich 1.

ITALY: Genoa 1 Foggia 4; Inter Milan 3 Sampdoria 0; Lazio 3 Juventus 1, Napoli 4 Atalanta 0; Piacenza 1 Roma 0; Reggiana 1 Lecce 0; Torino 1 Cremonese 1.

HOLLAND: PSV Eindhoven 3 Volendam 0; MVV Maastricht 3 SC Heerenveen 1. Yesterday: Ajax Amsterdam 3 Willem II Tilburg 1; Vitesse Arnhem 4 FC Groningen 1; Sparta Rotterdam 1 Go Ahead Eagles 0; RKC Waalwijk 1 VVV Venlo 2; FC Utrecht 0 NAC Breda 5

PORTUGAL: Gil Vicente 1 Porto 1; Salgueiros 5 Braga 1; Belenenses 2 Maritimo 1: Setubal 6 Famalicao 1; Pacos Ferreira 1 Farense 0; Uniao Madeira 3 Estoril 0; Guimaraes 1 Boavista 0; Estrela Amadora 0 Benfica 1.

SPAIN: Valencia 0 Barcelona 4 Yesterday: Real Madrid 0 Sevilla 0; Sporting Gijon 3 Real Sociedad 2; Celta 1 Albacete 4; Logrones 2 Real Zaragoza 2; Rayo Vallecano 1 Osasuna 0; Lerida 1 Real Valladolid 0; Santander 1 Real Oviedo 2. Tenerife 0 Deportivo La Coruña 1.

POOLS CHECK

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
3	2½	1½	1½	2	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	2	1½	3	1½	2	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½

30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58
1½	1½	1½	1½	2½	1½	1½	3	1½	1½	1½	2½	1½	1½	2½	1½	1½	1½	3	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	2	2

FORECAST: Telephone claims required for 21, 21½ and 22 points: dividend forecast is a possible jackpot with four jackpot draws and four high-score draws

uture

Leicester's style puts laws under scrutiny

Leicester 21
Bristol 9

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

LIKE armies entrenching for the winter, the top three clubs in the Courage Clubs Championship erected further defences between themselves and the pack over the weekend. At least Bath, whose three- year tenure of the championship is under siege, embellished their victory over London Irish with three tries: their rivals, Leicester and Wasps, depended largely on the long-range cannon.

That Jez Harris and Rob Andrew each equalled the league record by kicking seven penalty goals in their respective games is as much a commentary on the laws as anything (nor does it compare with Neil Jenkins's nine for Pontypridd in the Heineken League earlier this month).

It is as frustrating for players as it is for spectators that tries, for which all sides strive, have become even harder to score because those who frame the laws have denied teams the opportunity to establish pressure points on the field. Ian Smith, Leicester's articulate coach, was a trifle hard on his own players when he criticised the quality of the win by seven penalties against three over Bristol, at Welford Road, on Saturday.

"The players are very disappointed," Smith said. "They have achieved a very good result but the way it was achieved was far from satisfactory. We expect to be able to win by scoring tries, playing the sort of rugby synonymous with Leicester over the years."

Harris managed a perfect seven out of seven, even in horrid first-half conditions of strong wind and flurries of freezing rain, to match David Pears's record, for Harlequins, against Rosslyn Park, two years ago and the club record established by Les Cusworth, against London Welsh, in 1979.

If ten penalties seem poor fare for a crowd of 7,500, the match overall offered many moments to savour. Leicester's play into the wind was of a high order, spoilt only by the fatal inability to insert the crucial finishing pass. Bristol, realising that they had been let off the hook when Leicester's initial domination of possession led only to a 9-3 advantage, responded by releasing the dangerous John, while Eves beavered away.

But Bristol's pack, for all the confidence of their new coaching co-ordinator, Brian Hanlon, under-achieved in the set-pieces: their front row was penalised three times for collapsing and they lost the lineouts 23-13, the relationship between Regan and his locks being less than secure.

But Bristol as a club are happier with the direction they are heading: tomorrow's extraordinary general meeting, after the disaffection of the summer, should confirm the existing committee's approach and Hanlon, while regretting the absence of key players such as Bracken, Blackmore and Wring, is at one with his players. He has committed himself to a two-year spell in England and clearly hopes that Bristol will extend his contract beyond this season.

It was important that Bristol's defence held as well as it did. Had Leicester scored from a rolling second-half maul which covered 25 metres, the dam might have burst; as it was, Tainton kept them in touch at 9-6 and 12-9 before Harris, in the final quarter, killed them off.

That he had so many opportunities was a measure of Leicester's territorial advantage and the inroads made by Potter and Rory Underwood, who is growing in confidence at centre, plus the linking work of Back. The blond flanker, taking criticism of his size even more to heart, is intent on adding greater weight and strength to his 5ft 10in frame, without reducing his speed.

There is nothing inadequate with his vision though. Sometimes on Saturday, Back perceived the chance to put the ball through the hands, only to find a less alert colleague binding on to him and stopping the continuity which is so much his forte.

"The England management have to ask themselves what sort of game they want to play," Smith, who was a capable open-side flanker himself, said. "It's difficult to change a winning side but that's possibly the best time to do it. If I was picking England, Back would be one of the first names on the sheet. Whether he was taller or heavier makes no difference to what he can contribute."

SCORERS: Leicester: Penalty goals: Harris (7). Bristol: Penalty goals: Tainton (3).
LEICESTER: W Kilford; S Hackney, R Underwood, S Potter, T Underwood, J Harris, A Kardooni; G Rowntree, R Cockerill, D Garforth, J Wells, M Johnson, M Poole, N Back, D Richards.
BRISTOL: P Hull; D John, A Severimutto, R Knibbs, S Crossland; M Tainton, M Newall; A Sharp, M Regan, D Hinkins, J Pearson, P Adams, S Shaw, D Eves, R Armstrong.
Referee: A Spreadbury (Somerset).



Harris: seven penalties

Colts pay no heed to Twickenham's open spaces



KNOCK a couple of noughts off the 66,000 that swarmed into Twickenham for the University match last Tuesday and, as illustrated above, you would not be too adrift of the number that trickled in to witness the culmination of this season's colts county championship (Barry Trowbridge writes). With the premier sports stadium in Britain used so sparingly, it is perplexing that the Rugby Football Union continues to open its doors specifically for a match that attracts such little support, and what followers the event has were dealt no favours by Yorkshire, seen running out before their 28-6 victory, and Gloucestershire on Saturday. Compared with the Daily Mail Cup final between the under-18s of Bradford Grammar School and RGS Guildford in April, the match was awful, but there must be a case for using even a good game as no more than a curtain-raiser for the county championship final proper. It must hoped that the quality was a reflection of a poor crop of colts this winter and not of the way young players — under-19s in this case — are being developed once clubs take over from seats of learning. On their way to the final, Gloucestershire beat Somerset 8-7, in the round-robin stage, while Yorkshire pipped them 10-8 in the semi-final, suggesting that the final could be a turgid affair, and the sides produced just that by refusing to utilise the width of the pitch. In the second half, particularly, the Yorkshire pack resorted to All Black tactics and conceded a string of penalties in the "safe" zone between the ten-metre lines, but with 25 points on the board, a strong set of backs and two excellent place kickers in Scott Benton, the right-footed stand-off who landed three penalty goals, and Dean Jowett, the left-footed full back who converted first-half tries by Benton and Nick Miller, it was not a performance to warm a chill afternoon. Stephen Hart scored Yorkshire's third try; Gloucestershire's points came from a penalty goal by Charles Heming and a dropped goal by Michael Crisp.
Photograph: Marc Aspland

Gloucester's rebuilding yields ringing success

Gloucester 24
Harlequins 20

BY JOHN HOPKINS

THE bells were ringing out from Gloucester cathedral before the kick-off. Had the bellringers foreseen that Gloucester would win their third Courage Clubs' Championship match in succession, that each of their doughty props would score a try, and that the referee would allow half an hour to pass before blowing for a penalty?

Seven tries and 44 points in a league game. Who would have thought it at Gloucester, of all places? Gloucester's results are getting better. Last season's hiatus is slowly being forgotten and Barry Corless is assembling a structure similar to that which he put in place so successfully at Northampton.

"I have a three-year plan," Corless, the director of rugby, said. "The first year we just have to get going. Gloucester are already stronger than Northampton were when I started there. Next season we start pulling together and getting somewhere and the season after that we'll be ready to succeed Bath when they start laying off one or two players." There was merely a hint of a smile after he had said this.

Since the beginning of November, Gloucester have lost only to Bristol in four league matches. That an upturn was imminent was confirmed by their victories over Northampton at home, Orrell away and now Harlequins. All three are higher in the league than Gloucester.

Harlequins need not chastise themselves for losing this close game, except perhaps for the fact that they did not use the wind as well as Gloucester. Nine of Harlequins' forwards are injured.

And why was Will Carling not playing? "Will has got Carling flu," Salmon said. "It's the British equivalent of Beijing flu." Will be be fit for the cup game against Basingstoke on Saturday? "Don't know," Salmon said. "Got a coin? Let's toss it."

Harlequins led by seven points midway through the first half and trailed by nine midway through the second. If Kent Bray had managed to convert his own try, scored in the 21st minute of the second half, then Harlequins would have drawn to within two points of Gloucester, who had little difficulty in retaining their grip.

Saturday was the eve of Andy Mullins's 29th birthday. The Harlequins captain departed from Gloucester in a neutral frame of mind. Victory could have been theirs but it was not. Harlequins had lost two points. Such is life in the league. As he left the ground, the cathedral bells were still ringing.

SCORERS: Gloucester: Tries: Windo, Deacon, Nicholson, Fenley. Conversions: Smith (2). Harlequins: Tries: Jardine-Brown, Kayter, Bray. Conversion: Bray. Penalty: Bray.
GLOUCESTER: T Smith; G Perrins, D Caskie, D Cummins, M Nicholson; A Johnson, B Fenley; A Windo, J Hawker, A Deacon, R Fowke, R West, S Devereux, I Smith, D Sims.
HARLEQUINS: K Bray; D O'Leary, J Kayter, G Thompson, J Alexander; P Challinor, R Glenister; M Hobley, P Simmonds, A Mullins, M Russell, D Dix, S Dear, R Jardine-Brown, C Sheasby, O'Leary replaced by B Short (58min).
Referee: D Matthews (RFU).

Heady concoction raises Llanelli's flagging spirits

Llanelli 20
Swansea 13

BY GERALD DAVIES

THIS was a heartwarming game. And it came at the right time. As the Heineken League hits the halfway mark, there has been little as yet that can be considered memorable. Worse has been the niggling thought that clubs are so overwhelmed with ideas of losing and self-preservation that to go for victory and affirmation is almost a secondary consideration. "Stop them" being uppermost, instead of "go for it".

In the last few years, these clubs have provided what is most appealing about Welsh rugby.

This was a marvellous game. The first half was a heady concoction of thrust and counter-thrust, first going one way then another, driving close to the scrums' fringes then running wide on the flanks. In the strong and influential wind the skills were fine, too. At no stage during this first 40 minutes did the touch judges intervene, although they had to do so three times in the second half but even then two of these were not dramatic enough to warrant a penalty, merely a ticking-off.

From the kick-off the two teams ran at each other. Swansea, because of the wind, eschewed shots at goal and showed a refreshing choice of enterprising options. They all worked, instead, as so often happens, ending up in confusing heaps. Yet for all this, it was Llanelli who took the lead.

Appleyard found himself isolated in midfield and Lyn Jones and Quinnell fastened on to the loose ball and counter-attacked for Ian Jones to score. If Williams replied with a penalty for the visitors, Llanelli scored another splendid try with, again, Jones and Quinnell to the fore and a thrust by Moon established the ruck on the left for an overlap to be created on the right for Richards to score.

For the third try, Lyn Jones charged down Williams's kick behind his own line and for Strange to fall on the ball to score and convert his own try. This was a comfortable half-time lead.

It settled down late in the second half to a more steady confrontation. Williams and Strange exchanged penalties and Appleyard scored a good try which Williams converted.

It was Swansea who had to make the play, but they lost their way, choosing to kick aimlessly downfield.

After successive losses against Bridgend and Newport which have dented their chances for the championship, Llanelli, with this victory, have set themselves up for their traditional strong run in the second half, with their eye, as always, on the cup.

SCORERS: Llanelli: Tries: I Jones, Richards, Strange Conversion: Strange Penalty goal: Strange. Swansea: Try: Appleyard. Conversion: Williams. Penalty goal: Williams (2).
LLANELLI: I Jones; A Richards, S Davies, N Davies, W Proctor; J Strange, R Moon; R Evans, A Lamerton, H Williams-Jones; P Jones, P Davies, A Copsey, L Jones, S Quinnell
SWANSEA: A Clement; M Titley, I Lewis, S McIntosh, S Davies; A Williams, R Jones, I Buckett, G Jenkins, R Shaw, A Reynolds, M Evans, R Monarty, R Appleyard, P Arnold. Monarty replaced by S Moore (77min)
Referee: R Yeman

RESULTS AND TABLES

Courage Clubs Championship

First division

Bath 28 London Irish 8
Bath: Tries: Catt, de Glanville, Hill, Lloyd Con: Callard. Pens: Callard 2 London Irish: Try: Collins Pen: Corcoran
Gloucester 24 Harlequins 20
Gloucester: Tries: Deacon, Fenley, Nicholson, Windo Cons: T Smith 2. Harlequins: Tries: Bray, Jardine-Brown, Kayter Con: Bray. Pen: Bray.
Leicester 21 Bristol 9
Leicester: Pens: Harris 7. Bristol: Pens: Tainton 3.
Newcastle Gos 8 Northampton 28
Newcastle Gosforth: Try: Douglas Drop goal: Wilcox. Northampton: Tries: Beal, Dawson, Hunter, Merlin Con: Grayson. Pens: Grayson 2
Wasps 28 Orrell 16
Wasps: Try: Bates. Con: Andrew. Pens: Andrew 7. Orrell: Try: Harner Con: Langford. Pens: Langford 2, Peacock

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bath	9	8	0	1	332	86	16
Leicester	9	7	0	2	171	105	14
Wasps	8	5	1	2	163	141	11
Harlequins	9	4	0	5	159	125	8
Northampton	9	4	0	5	155	153	8
Orrell	9	4	0	5	153	152	8
Bristol	9	4	0	5	140	147	8
Gloucester	9	3	2	4	126	156	6
London Irish	9	3	0	5	87	143	6
Newcastle Gos	9	0	1	8	81	249	1

Second division

L Scottish 12 Saracens 37
London Scottish: Pens: Russell 4 Saracens: Tries: Lee 2, Hill, Tunningley Cons: Tunningley 4 Pens: Tunningley 3
Otley 0 Wakefield 22
Wakefield: Tries: Barnett, Sleightholme. Pens: Jackson 4.
Rugby 6 Moseley 3
Rugby: Pens: Mapletoft 2. Moseley: Pen: Hodgkinson.
Sale 28 W Hartlepool 12
Sale: Tries: McCartney, Verbickas, Warr. Cons: Turner 2. Pens: Turner 3. West Hartlepool: Pens: Stabler 2, Oliphant Drop goal: Stabler
Waterloo 8 Nottingham 19
Waterloo: Try: Craig. Pen: Swindells. Nottingham: Try: Bradley Con: Gregory Pens: Gregory 3. Drop goal: Gregory.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
West Hartlepool	9	7	1	1	194	127	15
Sale	9	6	1	2	172	65	13
Saracens	9	6	1	2	124	125	13
Wakefield	9	4	3	2	185	103	11
Moseley	9	4	0	5	119	121	8
Waterloo	9	3	1	5	115	164	7
Otley	9	3	1	5	111	166	7
Rugby	9	3	1	5	76	131	7
London Scottish	9	3	0	6	107	140	6
Nottingham	9	1	1	7	105	166	3

Third division

Bedford 12 Richmond 19
Bedford: Pens: Finnie 4. Richmond: Try: Greenwood. Con: Livesey. Pens: Livesey 4
Blackheath 16 Rosslyn Park 7
Blackheath: Try: Friday. Con: Mycroft Pens: Mycroft 2. Drop goal: Howard Rosslyn Park: Try: Roiser. Con: Robin
Havant 16 Coventry 21
Havant: Try: Jones. Con: Gummer Pens: Lappiati 3. Coventry: Tries: Hickey, Woodman. Con: Angell. Pens: Angell 3
Morley 10 Exeter 9
Morley: Try: Throup. Con: Grayshon Pen: Grayshon. Exeter: Pens: Green 3
Redruth 11 Fylde 10
Redruth: Try: C Winkworth. Pens: Stephens 2 Fylde: Try: Collinge Con: Parker Pen: Parker

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Coventry	7	6	0	1	154	108	12
Richmond	7	5	0	2	149	82	10
Bedford	6	5	0	1	119	78	10
Fylde	7	4	0	3	102	80	8
Rosslyn Park	7	3	1	3	112	95	7
Exeter	7	3	1	3	101	109	7
Blackheath	6	3	0	3	78	75	6
Morley	7	2	0	5	93	128	4
Havant	7	1	0	6	91	142	2
Redruth	7	1	0	6	53	153	2

Fourth division

Aspatria	23	Askeans	20
Clifton	35	L St Helens	21
Harrogate	23	Broughton P	6
Leeds	3	Plymouth	11
Sudbury	18	Sheffield	22

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Clifton	7	6	1	0	181	81	13
Harrogate	7	5	1	1	146	80	11
Liverpool St H	7	4	0	3	146	115	8
Plymouth	7	4	0	3	101	147	8
Sheffield	6	3	0	3	115	71	6
Askeans	7	3	0	4	114	127	6
Leeds	7	3	0	4	88	109	6
Broughton Park	7	2	0	5	91	149	4
Sudbury	7	2	0	5	98	156	4
Aspatria	6	1	0	5	84	131	2

Fifth division north

Brad and Bing	16	Hereford	0
Lichfield	12	B Solihull	5
Preston G	20	Kendal	15
Rotherham	26	Nuneaton	6
Walsall	6	Stoke-on-Trent	13
Winnington P	15	Stourbridge	9

Fifth division south

Berry Hill	13	H Wycombe	6
London Welsh	17	Camborne	17
Maidstone	19	Basingstoke	58
Met Police	18	North Walsham	3
Southend	14	Weston-s-Mare	18
Tabard	13	Reading	22

Heineken Welsh League

First division

Cross Keys 12 Aberavon 15
Cross Keys: Pens: Withers 3. Drop goal: Withers. Aberavon: Tries: Jardine, Middleton Con: Bebb Pen: Bebb
Dunvant 6 Cardiff 8
Dunvant: Pens: Thomas 2. Cardiff: Try: Hall Pen: Davies.
Llanelli 20 Swansea 13
Llanelli: Tries: I Jones, Richards, Strange Con: Strange. Pen: Strange. Swansea: Try: Appleyard Con: Williams. Pens: Williams 2.
Neath 28 Newport 17
Neath: Tries: Rees 2, penalty try. Cons: Thorburn 2. Pens: Thorburn 3. Newport: Tries: Llewellyn, Rees. Cons: Rees 2 Pen: Rees.
Pontypool 28 Bridgend 23
Pontypool: Tries: H Jones, G Taylor. Cons: Ring 2 Pens: Ring 3, Reynolds. Drop goal: Ring. Bridgend: Tries: Webbe 2, Lewis. Con: Lewis. Pens: Lewis 2
Pontypridd 43 Newbridge 18
Pontypridd: Tries: Back, Jenkins, John, Robbins. Cons: Jenkins 4 Pens: Jenkins 5. Newbridge: Tries: Fealey, Roberts. Con: Green. Pens: Green 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Swansea	15	13	0	2	396	191	26
Neath	14	12	1	1	396	192	25
Cardiff	15	11	0	4	483	125	22
Llanelli	15	11	0	4	351	219	22
Pontypridd	14	10	1	3	361	213	21
Bridgend	14	6	1	7	285	276	13
Newport	15	6	1	8	232	334	13
Aberavon	14	4	1	9	172	285	9
Dunvant	14	4	0	10	165	290	8
Newbridge	13	3	1	9	181	277	7
Pontypool	15	3	0	12	211	347	6
Cross Keys	14	0	0	14	160	444	0

Second division

Abertillery 22 Maesteg 13
Abertillery: Tries: M Williams, J Williams Pens: Hayward 4. Maesteg: Try: Lewis Con: Watts. Pens: Watts 2.
Ebbw Vale 13 Tenby Utd 9
Ebbw Vale: Try: Thomas Con: M Jones Pen: M Jones. Drop goal: Davies. Tenby United: Pens: Sutton 3.
Llandovery 11 Treorchy 11
Llandovery: Try: A Williams. Pens: Dix, 2. Treorchy: Try: L Evans. Pens: L Evans 2
Llanharan 18 Penarth 15
Llanharan: Tries: Langdon, Reynolds Con: Morris. Pens: Langdon 2. Penarth: Tries: Cousins, Williams Con: Miller. Pen: Rosser.
Mountain Ash 7 Glamorgan W 30
Mountain Ash: Try: Price Con: Mason. Glamorgan Wanderers: Tries: Calcaterra, Patterson, Smith, St John. Cons: Marshall 2. Pens: Marshall 2
Narberth 14 SW Police 3
Narberth: Try: Phillips. Pens: Pearce 2 Drop goal: Pearce. South Wales Police: Pen: Price

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Treorchy	14	13	1	0	282	126	27
Abertillery	14	9	1	4	332	180	19
Maesteg	14	8	1	5	222	153	17
Tenby Utd	14	8	0	6	220	208	16
Narberth	14	8	0	6	191	147	16
Ebbw Vale	14	6	2	6	199	172	14
SW Police	13	7	0	6	209	210	14
Llanharan	14	5	2	7	146	208	12
Llandovery	14	5	1	8	173	258	11
Penarth	14	4	0	10	189	288	8
Mountain Ash	13	4	0	9	146	213	8
Glamorgan W	14	2	0	12	163	311	4

Representative matches

Connacht	25	Glasgow Dist	47
Edinburgh Dist	39	Ulster	13
Munster	6	Scot N and Mid	13
S of Scot	16	Leinster	26

Club matches

Clarkston	33	Glasgow Acads	0
Durham	6	Middlesbrough	5
Glasgow HK	17	Gala	17
Harlods FP	30	Kelvinside	13
Jed-Forest	9	Dundee HSFP	0
Kelso	37	Boroughmuir	3
Langholm	5	Hawick	14
Peebles	5	Melrose	15
Selkirk	24	Hutchanhill	16
Stirling Co	40	Ayr	7
Watsonians	5	Kirkaldy	21
West of Scot	10	Heddington	13

Colts county championship

Final
Gloucestershire 6 Yorkshire 28

Andrew's trusty boot brings Orrell to heel

Wasps 28
Orrell 16

BY BRYAN STILES

WITH a points-gatherer like Rob Andrew in their ranks, Wasps could be forgiven for dreaming they could beat Bath to the Courage Clubs Championship this season.

The England stand-off half collected all but five of Wasps points at Sudbury on Saturday to keep his side well in the title hunt and boost morale for their Pilkington Cup clash with Bath at the Recreation Ground next Saturday.

With the championship programme at the halfway stage, Wasps' victory maintained their third place in the table, five points behind Bath and three behind Leicester, but with a game in hand over the leaders.

Rob Smith, their coach, knows his team will have to take advantage of any faltering by the leading pair in a gruelling league programme and is looking to some desperate teams at the bottom of the table to help out by pulling off some unexpected wins against the leading two.

Wasps certainly had the upper hand over Orrell, using the bitterly cold high wind to much better effect in the first-half than the visitors were able to do in the second.

The Orrell forwards stuck doggedly to their chores before the interval, even though one incident in particular must have broken their hearts. They had fought their way to within a few yards of the Wasps line, only to see Andrew gain possession and hoof the ball the length of the field and hit the billboards behind the visitors' line.

He and Huw Davies kept Orrell penned in their own 22 for much of the first half. They needed grim defensive work as Wasps attacked from close range and that inevitably led to a shoal of penalties.

Andrew was delighted. He harvested five penalty goals before the interval and created a try for Bates.

With Orrell expecting him to kick or pass, he cut inside two defenders on the 22 and began a move which ended near the corner flag. He converted from the touchline — of course.

Orrell's only reply was a close-range penalty goal from Alun Peacock which left the Londoners leading comfortably 22-3 at half-time.

Wasps prepared themselves for all-out defence in the second half, but the expected onslaught was never properly sustained. Only when Langford came on for the injured Peacock in the 57th minute did Orrell's hopes rise. He scored a penalty with his first kick, added the conversion points to a try by Harner, and then collected another penalty.

But Andrew picked up two more penalties to take his tally for the match to seven and equal the league record for penalties scored in a match.



Andrew: league record

SCORERS: Wasps: Try: Bates Conversion: Andrew Penalty goals: Andrew (7) Orrell: Try: Harner Conversion: Langford Penalty goals: Peacock, Langford (2)
WASPS: H Davies; P Hopley, L Scrase, D Hopley, S Hunter; R Andrew, S Bates; G Holmes, K Dunn, J Probyn, N Dyte, R Kinsey, D Ryan, C Wilkins. L Dallaglio
ORRELL: S Tabemer; J Naylor, P Johnson, M Farr, P Harner; A Peacock, D Morris, M Hynes, G French, D Southern, P Manley, C Cooper, C Brierly, S Hayter, D Cleary Peacock replaced by S Langford (57min).
Referee: A Rowden (Berkshire)

Sale inspired by Turner's vision and dexterity

Sale 28
West Hartlepool 12

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

WHAT Paul Turner does from stand-off half would turn most coaches grey. Then again, Turner is coach of Sale. The flair that has convincingly disposed of Sale's two main rivals in the second division would bring a novel and timely distraction to the usual stodge were the Cheshire club to make the top flight.

The second tier of the Courage Clubs Championship is littered with one-season wonders. Sale included, after relegation from the first division five years ago. They have generally flattered only to deceive, but with the arrival last season of Turner, who was capped three times by Wales in 1989, a steadfastness has been allied to the rhythmic rugby that has remained Sale's hallmark.

Although prone to dry up in the wet, Turner is an unorthodox pivot and playmaker of marvellous vision and dexterity. Tackling him is akin to nailing down a grasshopper, and his attacking desire is seemingly infectious. Outside him, Birt, Stocks and Mallinder ran all over dreadfully leaden-footed opponents at Heywood Road on Saturday.

This was the second division leaders' first defeat, and a rude awakening, too. As occurred in their relegation last season, once a juggernaut pack has been contained, West Hartlepool have no pace or ideas to counter the effect.

Take away Turner, the vital cog, and a spoke could yet enter Sale's wheel. The Welshman spreads confidence and possession in equal measure.

With Kenrick, flanker and captain, roaming wide and inspiring havoc, the pair twice opened up West Hartlepool for tries, after McCartney had bludgeoned his way over from a set-piece.

What Simon Verbickas saw of the ball on his home League debut was enough to convince everyone that he is an outstanding prospect. During his first foray down the right, Cooke was forced to use the strong arm, but both he and Oliphant were left groping air, as the 18-year-old went on an arcing run for the second of Sale's three touchdowns.

West Hartlepool applied the greater pressure in the second period, yet failed miserably to add to their points tally. In contrast to their opponents' lumbering approach, Turner, with the fifth of seven goal attempts, converted a late try by Warr that he again had created.

SCORERS: Sale: Tries: McCartney, Verbickas, Warr. Conversions: Turner (2). Penalty goals: Turner (3) West Hartlepool: Penalty goals: Stabler (2). Oliphant. Dropped goal: Stabler
SALE: J Mallinder; S Verbickas, G Stocks, M Birt, K Young; P Turner, M Warr; P Smith, S Diamond, A Smith, M Duthie, D Baldwin, R McCartney, M Kenrick, A Macfarlane
WEST HARTLEPOOL: K Oliphant; O Evans, C Lee, P Hodder, D Cooke; J Stabler, J Wrigley; P Lancaster, S Mitchell, P Wheelock, P Evans, J Dixon, K Westgarth, A Brown, M Watson. Brown replaced by D Mitchell (74min). Cooke replaced by S Cook (80)
Referee: B Campsall (Yorkshire)

هكذا من الأصل



THEATRE page 28
Two centuries of American history come to life on Broadway in The Kentucky Cycle

ARTS

BOOKS page 29
From the touching to the stomach-turning: A Literary Companion to Medicine reviewed



The unhappy family man

With Alan Ayckbourn's new play opening in London, Alan Franks finds the author still preoccupied with the drama of domestic despair



MARTIN BEDDALL

Alan Ayckbourn at the Pit: 'People tend to be a lot warier of me now. They don't invite me for dinner as much'

Alan Ayckbourn would not give his latest play the ghost of a chance in the West End, and who is there to persuade him otherwise? His previous one, *Time of My Life*, was hailed by critics as a return to form, had stars in the leading roles, yet was pulled off after three months at the Vaudeville because of poor houses.

This new piece, dark with the shadows of child abuse and mental violence, could hardly hope to fare better. Fortunately therefore, it is poised to open at the Barbican's 180-seat Pit Theatre, and is the playwright's first collaboration with the Royal Shakespeare Company. After 46 plays, and almost as many years in the trade, our most successful comic dramatist is a creature of one subsidised studio.

To him, at least, there is something incongruous about the state of affairs. He reminds you that he has always been a small spaces man, that he never set out to write for, only plays, and that it is as much by fortune as by design that there has been a hard public interested in what he says and in his way of saying it.

But Ayckbourn in the Pit? Will it not be said that he is taking up the space that should properly be given over to some less self-sufficient voice? "Oh probably," he replies. "There's always that. But I hope that we [the company] will do well enough with this to be able to support someone else in the future. Not all my plays are commercial by any means. Some have to be seen in small houses. Obviously, if you were to take a set thumping comedy like *His The Other Half Loves*, it would be different.

"I have earned my credentials by working seriously in Scarborough [at the Stephen Joseph Theatre, where most of his plays are premiered] long after I 'should', or rather could have left it, and surely this shows that I am seriously pursuing a career and developing a craft, not just hanging around picking off West End parts."

Ever since *Way Upstream* in 1982, it has generally been said of Ayckbourn that he is moving away from being the house dramaturge of the almost middle classes to becoming a detector of quiet despair and spiritual void in the lives of the adequately heeled. Such a reading ignores the presence, almost from the outset of his career, of the destructive potential in the family unit.

With this new work, *Wildest Dreams*, we have a married couple in which the cruelty of emotional and sexual indifference is a cause of horrific breakdown, and a ménage dominated by a clearly unhealthy relationship between an adult brother and sister. While Ayckbourn's men and women may today be somewhat more *in extremis* than once they were, we can none the less see those same domestic demons, clearly formed and rampant, as long ago as 1972 in a supposedly light comedy like *Time and Time Again*.

An Ayckbourn family is now, as it was then, a dangerous thing to belong to. Are there really, in life, such worms in every conjugal apple? "Oh no," he says with a great laugh, "I would hate to say that all families in Britain were like mine are. That would be quite dreadful!

'But you see, there isn't really very much to say about a blissfully happy couple, is there? Even sitcoms have moved away from that position. Dramatically, it is so much stronger to write about something that isn't working than about something that is. This may sound an awful thing to say, but you don't want to sit and look at some pair smiling at each other and him saying 'You're just as lovely as the day I married you.'

"At the start of his one-man show on Shakespeare, Ian McKellen used to ask the audience whether they could think of one single happily married couple from the canon. Can you?"

What about the Macbeths?

"Ah, yes. That's what several people said. I would say the Macduffs were a possibility, but look what happened to them."

He insists that his unfailing ear for love's discordant melodies is only that — an ear; its acuity has nothing to do with the circumstances of his own life, which he describes as calm. The language of his own face and body is bluff and genial, even under the mounting pressures of being the director of his own play.

If he leans so heavily on the ear, does it not mean that people are wary of being transmuted to characters by this famous faculty? I put the question rather mechanically, in the sense that I am expecting him to say what all writers say: it is the uniqueness of (their) imagination that fashions the words and selves of their fictive people. Ayckbourn says nothing of the sort, but then he is always at his best when he amuses by surprising: "People tend to be a lot warier of me than they used to be. They definitely don't invite me round for dinner as much as they did once. Or at least, when they do, they have tidied up their emotions before I arrive, so that by the time I get there it all looks pretty good."

When I met Ayckbourn, in the RSC's rehearsal rooms in deepest Clapham, south London, it was two days after the demonstration against the proposed cuts in government support for the Arts Council. There is a grim linkage between this subject and the collective scurrying of West End theatres for the safety of revivals and musicals: a few minutes earlier he had been hinting, with good reason, that the salvation of the straight new play lies in the regions. Yet when fresh budgetary restraints fall on regional theatres, the standard impulse is to retrench on new work and development programmes.

Not a lot of laughs in cuts, but at least Ayckbourn takes this subject rather as he takes the threat of the family, at full tilt. "You can't point out to a politician the sheer value of a theatre working in the community. It does half a million quid's worth of community work every week.

"Now, it is not my primary motive to be a social worker, but if theatre goes, what is there to replace it? There is nothing but a hole. In that community [Scarborough], and in others, there is nothing else to do except get drunk, hopelessly drunk. If people are pulling pigeons' heads off and throwing bricks at each other, one of the reasons is there is not much alternative except the remorseless mish-mash of violent videos and examples of brutality in any paper they pick up."

Ten years after *Intimate Exchanges*, 20 years after *The Norman Conquests*, 30 years after *Mr Whatnot*, his first London show, it is not only the characters who are further *in extremis*, but their creator as well.

● *Wildest Dreams opens at the Pit Theatre, Barbican (071-638 8891) tomorrow*

LONDON ORCHESTRAS

A 'fair' way out of the turmoil

The Philharmonia and London Philharmonic could end up with exactly the same level of public subsidy. That is the escape-route from the turmoil in the London orchestral world now being considered by Arts Council members. It comes from a suggestion by Clive Priestley, the influential London Arts Board chairman.

Priestley, who also sits on the Arts Council, has sent his colleagues a memorandum calling for a "just, fair and defensible" resolution of the orchestral crisis at the council's crucial meeting on Wednesday. He argues against the "switching of grants" put forward by the council's music panel, by which the Philharmonia would get the lion's share of the subsidy and the LPO a much-reduced figure that would dwindle to nothing after three years.

Instead, Priestley reminds his colleagues that the Hoffmann committee found little to choose between the three London orchestras it was assessing. Priestley quotes Hoffmann's conclusion: "We do not think that we can advise what the majority of us, in all good conscience, would regard as an arbitrary choice. If such a choice has to be made, it must be made by others."

> 'Pillaging the LPO would poison the musical life of London'

Given that conclusion, Priestley argues that "it would be grossly unjust to the LPO to promote the Philharmonia by pillaging its colleague orchestra. Not only is it inequitable, it will poison the musical life of London for a long time."

Priestley also says that he was "taken aback" that the music panel's paper for last Wednesday's council meeting did not even mention the LPO's residency at the South Bank. He points out that the LPO's residency was endorsed by the council, and argues that it should be given time to succeed. "We have a clear interest in maximising the return to the taxpayer on the investment which we and the South Bank have made in the residency."

In any case, argues Priestley, now is the wrong time to enforce a huge change in the London orchestral scene. "If the economy were buoyant, and sponsors were jostling each other to get to arts bodies first, we might be justified in tossing two orchestras out of the sleigh, but doing so now we cannot be sure that other funders would reach them before the wolves did."

He also says that the third orchestra, the Royal Philharmonic, should be given time and funds to develop its new national/ touring role based on London and Nottingham. The council's music panel favours halving the RPO's grant, to £200,000. But, Priestley maintains, "the moment at which it is putting together a package of support is not the time for us to give it a damn good kick".

The memorandum points out that the best way to approach the "London question" would be through a total review of orchestral provision in Britain. Such a survey was actually under way, then suspended to make way for Hoffmann.

On the immediate crisis, however, Priestley concludes: "Another way of tackling the question is to ask what the money now allocated to the Philharmonia and LPO might buy for the public if still invested in them but on a different footing.

"Suppose, for instance, one were to divide the £1.8 million between them in equal shares and ask their advice on how it should best be invested for the benefit of the public and the orchestras themselves?"

For the shell-shocked Arts Council — now fighting for its own life — Priestley's suggestions must have a strong appeal: after five months of bitterness, they would at least ensure that no orchestra is an outright loser. They are likely to form the basis of the compromise to be announced on Wednesday.

RICHARD MORRISON

TELEVISION: *The Changeling* struggles to be heard on BBC2

Passion in a quiet zone

YOU have to hand it to the technical team. On the soundtrack to Saturday night's stylish chiaroscuro studio production of *The Changeling* (BBC2), every atmospheric whistle of the Alicante sea breeze, every rustle of the vast Spanish dresses, every chink of the pearly ear-rings, and every creak of the natty leather jerkins came over with all the proverbial clarity of the bell. There was just one small problem: someone had neglected to tell the actors to speak up a bit, to compensate.

In fact, for the first 45 minutes, they seemed to be under strict instruction to hush up. "This is a Jacobean play about subterfuge, duplicity and unuttered thoughts, so of course think *sotto*. OK?" But



McGovern as Beatrice

it seemed a shame, all that inaudible gabbled whispering (much of it in voice-over asides). Turning up the volume didn't help, either; it just enhanced the whistle, rustle, creak and chink.

I expect a subtle point was being made. Middleton's *The Changeling* is not usually such a quiet, domestic play. Even with the notorious raving Rowley sub-plot removed, it concerns blood and passion — both daubed visibly on the corrupt disfigured face of the servant De Flores (Bob Hoskins), a walking sex bomb with a short fuse, whose longing to "serve" his mistress Beatrice Joanna (Elizabeth McGovern) importantly entails the original, rogering, farmyard sense of the word.

Meanwhile, Beatrice, who balks at his ugliness, has other ideas. Falling in love with the beauteous tousle-haired Alsemero (Hugh Grant) just a week before her intended wedding to an ineffectual mophead called Piracquo, Beatrice persuades the reviled De Flores to murder the fiance. Is De Flores shocked by the bloody commission? He is not. Rather, he declares himself "up to the chin in heaven", for he sees at once that here is his chance for service with a smile.

If not allowed to give full voice to the role, Hoskins still brought considerable sexual power to it. You could believe him when he said, with his dying breath, that he thanked life for nothing but the pleasure of deflowering Beatrice: "It was so sweet to me/That I have drunk up all, left none behind/For any man to pledge me."

Not much deflowering actually took place on screen, thank heaven; personally, I am still recovering from the RSC Emrys James-Diana Quick production of yesteryear in which Beatrice embarrassingly flailed her naked legs at the Royal Circle, and we all coughed and looked the other way.

De Flores is the kind of man who steals a ring from a corpse by cutting (and wrenching) off the finger, and in this one single extraordinary act vindicates all Freudian analysis of literature. Hoskins made the most of such physical moments, but there could have been more of them.

Directed by Simon Curtis (who produces this important *Performance* series), *The Changeling* was muted, in every sense. When De Flores checked himself in soliloquy — "I am too *loud*" — peculiarly, he was speaking in metaphor.

LYNNE TRUSS

COMEDY: Newman and Baddiel conquer Wembley Arena

Fans of an unfunny duo enjoy a feast of tripe

IF WE are to judge by this ludicrously over-hyped event, the performing duo of Rob Newman and David Baddiel are to comedy what the Ostrogoths were to the Roman Empire. They recognise a prize is there to be won (the city of Rome, status as kings of comedy) and, lo and behold, Rome falls and 12,000 shrieking young fans pack Wembley Arena. But the Goths conquered because the Roman citizens had lost their bearings, and it very much looks as if the devoted public (mostly under 25) who applaud N & B have lost their collective wits.

Video stores are stacked with comedy shows that are quoted, replayed and laughed at, time and time again. Having watched and endlessly repeated jokes from these, how comes it that the same young audience can bear to waste more than two minutes of their lives on the tripe offered by Newman (the tall one) and Baddiel (the one with glasses)?

Half an hour after the scheduled start, the arena darkened, some sort of music began, guns were fired, and up from the ground on to the central stage came the famous duo. They were crowning their nationwide tour with this unprecedented engagement before 12,000 waving, yelling, foot-stamping, cheering, whistling fans, there to see what was reported to be N & B's farewell as a partnership.

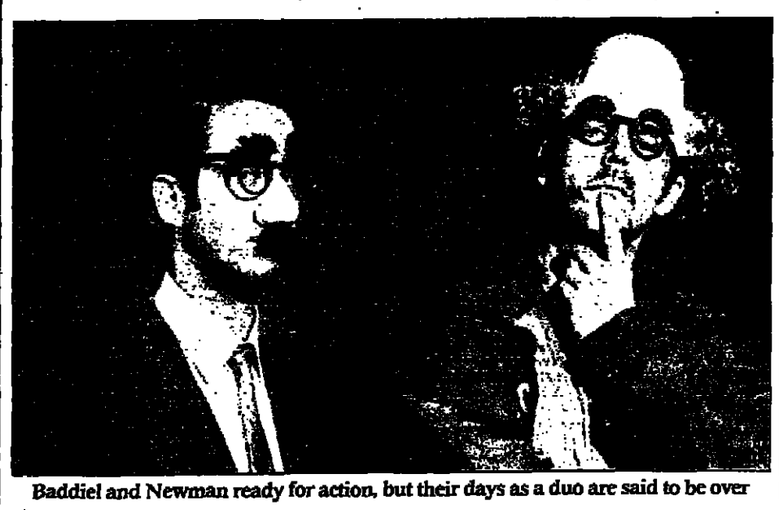
When the short one with glasses described himself as David "Enormous Penis" Baddiel, girls squealed and howled. He prowled around the spotlit stage, unable or unwilling to build the format for a sketch or routine, uttering pleasantries on Meat Loaf's appearance, Roy Castle's cancer, the cot-death of Anne Diamond's child. Anal sex is a favourite subject.

No sooner had he departed then he returned, dressed in a smoking jacket and posing as a homosexual, with fingers beringed and a cigarette beholdered, bending forward so that a technician could adjust the body mike somwhere in his butt.

Apart from the well-known sketch in which they pretend to be irritable professors and insult each other, Newman and Baddiel perform mainly as individuals. After the half-hour interval came Newman's solo turn. Wearing a frock-coat, he arrived on a motorised skateboard. His command of the craft of building a joke, applying subtlety by tone of voice or delivery, proves as frail as his colleague's. He gives an imaginative explanation for Bob Marley's escape from an assassin's bullet and tells a ghastly joke about Elton John. One interesting phrase — "I spent the whole day living in the corner of my eyes" — is thrown away like a pearl withdrawn from swine.

Sometimes a population goes mad. When Esso's advertisers dreamt up the slogan "Put a tiger in your tank", tiger-mania swept the land. Esso sales zoomed. For all I know, tiger sales zoomed. Shell, Texaco and the rest could only watch helplessly — sigh, shrug and wait for the phenomenon to burn itself out. That's your comedy show, that is.

JEREMY KINGSTON



Baddiel and Newman ready for action, but their days as a duo are said to be over

ast Week!
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c.c. 071-836 9837
Cast changes 10/1/94

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

LONDON

COMEDY STORE. At long last, the grand opening celebrations for the mecca of improv and stand-up comedians. An all-star line up lasts all week long.
Haymarket House, Oxendon Street, SW1. Tickets at the door (tonight is sold out) or Ticketmaster (071-344 4444). - Tower Records or HMV in Piccadilly. Tonight-Sat, 8pm

CONCORDIA: The chamber orchestra and singers open a series of candlelit concerts with an imaginative programme of music by Saint-Saëns, including the *Christmas Oratorio*, the *Carnival of the Animals*, the *Wedding Cake Caprice-Valse* with Victor Sangiorgio, and Rhapsodie No 2 in D, played by organist Nicholas Legge.
St John's, Smith Square, SW1 (071-222 1061). Tonight, 7.30pm.

PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA: Another evening of dramatic Russian music as pianist Vladimir Ovchinikov joins Yevgeny Svetlanov and the orchestra in a performance of Rachmaninov (Piano Concerto No 3) and Tchaikovsky (Symphony No 4).
Festival Hall, South Bank, SE1 (071-928 8800) Tonight, 7.30pm.

PIAF: Opening night for Elaine Paige in Pam Gems' portrait of the great French chanteuse. Peter Hall directs
Piccadilly, Denman Street, W1 (071-867 1118). Tonight, 7pm.

ELSEWHERE

BIRMINGHAM: Peter Wright's superb staging of *The Nutcracker* for the **Birmingham Royal Ballet** is arguably the best currently on offer in Britain Grand as well as exciting
Hippodrome, Hurst Street (021-622 7486). Today-Sat, 7.30pm; mats, Tues and Thurs, 2pm; Sat 2.30pm

SHEFFIELD. Felicity Kendal and Griff Rhys Jones star in Peter Hall's production of **An Absolute Turkey**, Feydeau's brilliant farce of 19th-century French bourgeoisie marital hijinks.
Lyceum Theatre, Norfolk Street Sheffield (0742 769922) Tonight-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 2pm.

CARDIFF: The **Welsh National Opera** closes its winter season on home ground with the great dramatic moments of Massenet's *Cinderella*. Rebecca Evans sings the title role; Pamela Helen Stephen is the Prince; Felicity Palmer the Stepmother and Lillian Watson the Fairy Godmother. Patrick Fournillier conducts.
New Theatre, Park Place, Cardiff (0222 394844). Tonight, Wed, Fri, 7.15pm

WINCHESTER: Panto time again and the riotous magic of *Aladdin* stops off here for one month. Ian Lavender is the Widow Twankey.
Theatre Royal, Jewry Street (0962 843434). Today, 10.30am and 1.30pm Until Jan 8

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: The London Group 80th Birthday Celebration (071-638 4141) ... **British Museum:** Deities and Devotions: Hindu art; Kawanabe Kyosai (071-636 1555) ... **Festival Hall:** Bruce Chatwin's Photographs (071-928 3002) .. **National Portrait Gallery:** The Portrait Now; Thomas Eakins (071-306 0055) ... **National Gallery:** Ken Kiff (071-839 3321) ... **Royal Academy of Arts:** Drawings from the J. Paul Getty Museum (071-439 7438) ... **Serpentine:** Richard Wentworth (071-402 6075) ... **Tate:** ; Ben Nicholson/Turner's Vignettes (071-887 8008) ... **Victoria & Albert:** Gates of Mystery: Russian icons; 150 Years of the Christmas Card (071-938 8500).

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

◪ **THE ABSENCE OF WAR:** John Thaw stars in David Hare's study of the Labour Party. Brilliant, necessary, or unfair, depending on your point of view.
National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Tonight-Tues, 7.15pm, mat Tues, 2pm.

☐ **THE BFG.** Roald Dahl's *Big Friendly Giant* makes his now annual seasonally festive call on London
Albery, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-867 1115) Mon 7pm; Tue-Fri, 2pm and 7pm; Sat 11am, 2.30pm, 7pm.

◪ **CAROUSEL:** Tuneful and cleverly set Rodgers and Hammerstein musical extravaganza.
Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5399) Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm. 165mins

◪ **JANE EYRE:** Alexandra Mathie and Tim Pigott-Smith in the well-known romantic melodrama. Fay Weldon adapts, Helena Kaut-Howson directs.
Playhouse, Northumberland Ave, WC2 (071-839 4401). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Thurs and Sat 3pm.

☐ **FOREVER PLAID:** Genial and wittily performed homage to the four-part harmony groups of the 1950s.
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5070). Mon-Thurs, 8pm; Fri, Sat 8.30pm, mats Fri, Sat, 6pm

☐ **THE GREAT HIGHWAY**
Strindberg's last play, a kaleidoscopic work in many styles, harking forward to Beckett and the Theatre of the Absurd.
Gate, 11 Pembridge Rd, W11 (071-229 0706). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm.

☐ **AN INSPECTOR CALLS:** Stephen Daldry's marvellously re-imagined version of Priestley's social thriller.
Aldwych, Aldwych, WC2 (071-836 6404). Mon-Fri, 7.45pm; Sat, 5pm and 8.15pm; mat Wed, 2.30pm

☐ **LOOKING THROUGH A GLASS ONION:** John Waters stars in his own musical tribute to John Lennon, and comes remarkably close to conveying his mysterious, if chaotic, charm.
Criterion, Piccadilly Circus, W1 (071-839 4488) Mon-Thurs, 8pm; Fri, Sat, 6pm and 9pm.

◪ **MACBETH.** Derek Jacobi and Cheryl Campbell play the hell-hound and his dam in Noble's new production
Barbican, Barbican Centre, EC2 (071-638 8891) Previewing tonight-Wed, 7.15pm. Opens Thurs, 7pm.

◪ **ME AND MAMIE O'ROURKE:** Dawn French and Jennifer Saunders together in a new offbeat comedy by the author of the film *Beaches*.
Strand, Aldwych, WC2 (071-930 8800). Tonight and tomorrow, 8pm. Opens Wed, 7pm.

☐ **MEDEA:** Jonathan Kent directs the magnificent Diana Rigg in Euripides's tragedy of a woman's revenge
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1116). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm; mat Sat, 5.30pm.

☐ **MOONLIGHT** Ian Holm stars in Pinter's play of a soured man raging against his approaching death
Comedy, Panton St, SW1 (071-867 1045) Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm and Sat, 5pm.

◪ **OLEANNA:** Power, politics and punishment at an American university. Great performances by David Suchet and Lia Williams in Mamet's play.
Duke of York's, St. Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-836 5122). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 4pm

◪ **ONE MAN:** Electrifying performances by Steven Berkoff in three solo pieces: Poe's *Telltale Heart*; *Actor*, and *Dog*, his hilarious, chilling view of life as seen by a lager lout's rottweiler.
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-494 5040). Mon-Sat, 8pm.

☐ **RELATIVE VALUES:** Susan Hampshire, Sara Crowe and Alison Fiske head a strong cast in Coward's snobbish but clever comedy. Tim Luscombe directs; first seen at Chichester this summer.
Savoy, Strand, WC2 (071-836 8888). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm

☐ **SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER:** Donald Sinden, Miriam Margolyes and David Essex star in Peter Hall's revival of the evergreen Goldsmith comedy.
Queens, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5041). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm.

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **Blood Brothers.** Phoenix (071-867 1044) ... ☐ **Buddy:** Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) ... ◪ **Cats:** New London (071-405 0072) ... ◪ **Crazy for You:** Prince Edward (071-734 8951) .. ☐ **Don't Dress for Dinner:** Duchess (071-494 5070) ... ☐ **Five Guys Named Moe.** Lyric (071-494 5045) ... ■ **Grease:** Dominion (071-580 8845) ... ☐ **Hot Stuff:** Cambridge (071-494 5040) ... ◪ **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat:** Palladium (071-494 5037) ... ◪ **Les Misérables:** Palace (071-434 0909) ... ◪ **Miss Saigon:** Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (071-494 5400) ... ☐ **The Mousetrap:** St Martin's (071-836 1443) ... ■ **The Phantom of the Opera:** Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) ... ◪ **Starlight Express:** Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) ... ◪ **Sunset Boulevard:** Adelphi Theatre (071-344 0055) ... ☐ **Travels With My Aunt:** Whitehall (071-867 1119) ... ☐ **The Woman in Black.** Fortune (071-836 2238).

Ticket information supplied by Society of West End Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ♦) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

ADDAMS FAMILY VALUES (PG): A new baby causes chaos in America's most macabre household. Overblown sequel, with good stretches. With Raul Julia and Anjelica Huston: director, Barry Sonnenfeld.
Empire (071-497 9999) **MGMs: Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Screen/Green** (071-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

AMERICAN HEART (15): Father and son hit the Seattle streets. Well-meaning social drama from director Martin Bell; with Jeff Bridges and Edward Furlong.
Odeon Haymarket (0426 915353)

THE SECRET ADVENTURES OF TOM THUMB (12): Dreary, unpleasant pixilated fantasy from the boleXbrothers animation studio in Bristol. Director, Dave Borthwick.
ICA (071-930 3647)

TOKYO STORY (U) Yasujiro Ozu's wonderful, tender classic of 1953 about an ageing couple's family visit. Part of a two-week season of Ozu films.
Renoir (071-837 8402)

CURRENT

♦ **ALADDIN** (U). Disney's brash Arabian cartoon does not match expectations, though Robin Williams' Genie is fun.
Barbican (071-638 8891) **MGMs: Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Leicester Square** (0426-915683) **Marble Arch** (0426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

♦ **DAVE** (15): The US President's lookalike takes over. Beguiling comic fantasy, with Kevin Kline and Sigourney Weaver. Ivan Reitman directs.
MGMs: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

♦ **DEMOLITION MAN** (15). Sylvester Stallone versus Wesley Snipes in a politically correct 21st century L.A. Overblown action romp with satirical touches. Director, Marco Brambilla.
MGMs: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

♦ **THE FUGITIVE** (12): 1960s television series roars back to life with Harrison Ford as the fugitive trying to clear his name. With Tommy Lee Jones, director, Andrew Davis
MGMs: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

THE HAWK (15): Is Helen Mirren's husband Lancashire's serial killer? Modest but powerful domestic thriller, from Peter Ransley's novel. David Hayman directs
MGMs: Chelsea (071-352 5096) **Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Notting Hill Coronet** (071-727 6705) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

♦ **MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING** (PG). Fast-food Shakespeare from Kenneth Branagh, with rollicking actors, clearly-spoken verse, but little film finesse. Emma Thompson, Denzel Washington, Michael Keaton.
Electric (071-792 2020/0328) **MGM Panton Street** (071-930 0631) **Odeon Mezzanine** (0426 915683) **Plaza** (071-497 9999)

♦ **THE PIANO** (15): Jane Campion's magnificent tale of repression and desire in mid-19th century New Zealand. With Holly Hunter, Sam Neill, Harvey Keitel.
Gate (071-727 4043) **Lumiere** (071-836 0691) **MGMs: Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Plaza** (071-497 9999) **Renoir** (071-837 8402) **Screen/Baker** (071-935 2772) **Screen/Hill** (071-435 3366) **Warner** (071-437 4343) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

THE REMAINS OF THE DAY (U): Life and lost chances of an English butler. Merchant Ivory's coldly glamorous account of Kazuo Ishiguro's novel with Anthony Hopkins, Emma Thompson.
Curzons: Mayfair (071-465 8865) **West End** (071-439 4805) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426-914 666) **Swiss Cottage** (071-586 3057)

RUBY IN PARADISE (15): Passive young woman (the striking Ashley Judd) finds her niche in Florida. Intimate, aggravating drama from Victor Nuñez.
MGMs: Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) **Screen/Baker** (071-935 2772)

♦ **SO I MARRIED AN AXE MURDERER** (12): Foolish but breezy vehicle for "Wayne's World" star Mike Myers. Thomas Schlamme directs
Odeons: Kensington (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **West End** (0426-915574)

THE WEDDING BANQUET (15): Americanised immigrant from Taiwan fails to tell his parents he's gay. Delightful, caring cross-cultural comedy. Director, Ang Lee.
Metro (071-437 0757) **MGM Piccadilly** (071-437 3561)

NEW YORK THEATRE: **Holly Hill** reviews a Pulitzer-winning saga of American history

How the West was really won

The Kentucky Cycle
Royale

THE only play ever to win a Pulitzer Prize before appearing in New York, Robert Schenkkan's *The Kentucky Cycle* has finally arrived on Broadway in a stunning production by Warner Shook, a Seattle-based director making his Broadway debut. First staged in Seattle and Los Angeles, the play is a saga that examines American character and values across two centuries.

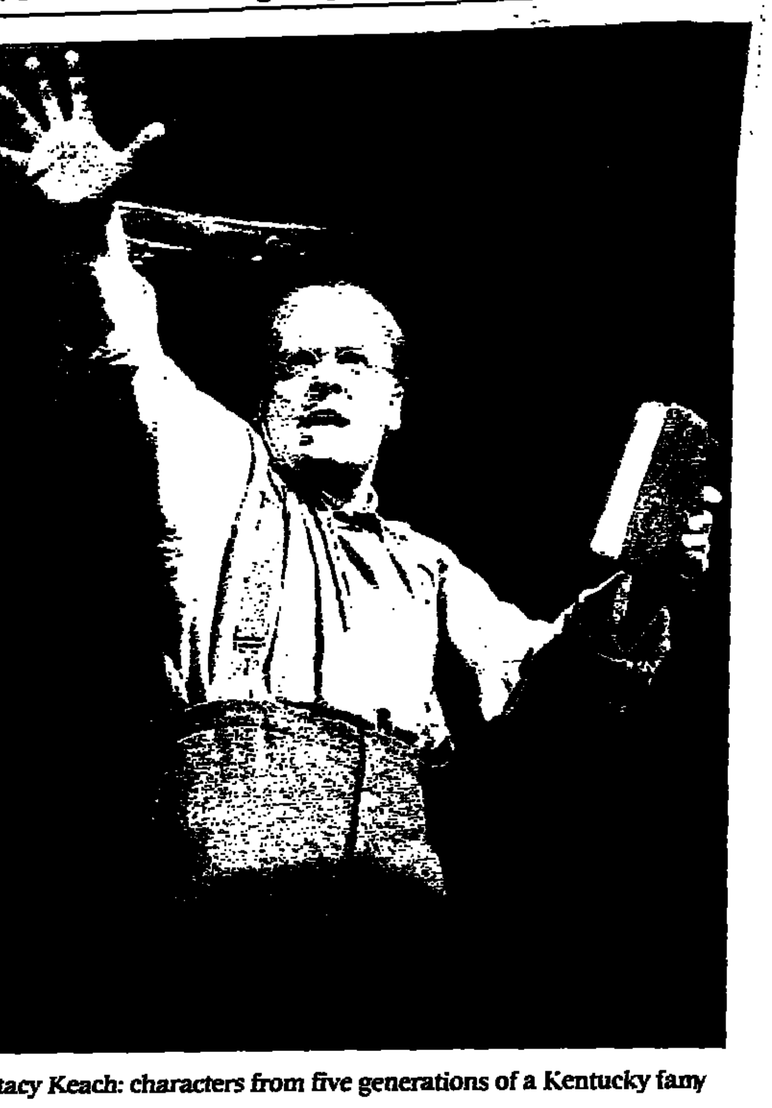
Stacy Keach begins as Michael Rowen, an Irish frontiersman in 1775, swindling Indians out of their land and abducting a squaw to bear him children. Making a tribe of Cherokees extinct by trading them smallpox-infected blankets, shooting rivals, brutalising his wife and son, the greedy and remorseless Rowen puts paid to the legend of the brave and noble American frontiersman.

So it continues with successive generations of Rowens. One descendant becomes an outlaw guerrilla in the Civil War, another a turncoat striker when unions strive to give Kentucky coal miners decent living standards in 1920. Two other families' destinies intertwine with the Rowens: a black family who begin as their slaves; and neighbours who become bitter enemies.

The *Cycle* is an epic in nine acts, divided into two three-hour segments with one intermission. As with the RSC's *Nicholas Nickleby*, audiences can buy tickets to both halves and see all in one day or one each on successive nights. Formidable as the commitment of time and money ($100) is, both are well spent.

The early feuding in and between families creates expectations of continuing House of Atreus-like events, but Schenkkan raises the stakes, expanding the concept of family and involving his characters in broader issues. The *Cycle* is specific to Kentucky, but its revisionist history and the questions it raises have a national, indeed an international, dimension.

The dialogue is a congenial vernacular embracing the elegiac and the homespun. Leading a splendid cast of 22, Keach appears as five of the Rowen patriarchs, ranging between ferocity and tenderness with unflagging zeal. Meanwhile, with minimal sets and props, the actors palpably create a sense of the ultimate protagonist of *The Kentucky Cycle*: the land itself, land that is loved, fought for, died for, exploited and exhausted.



Stacy Keach: characters from five generations of a Kentucky famy

ROCK CONCERTS: **James** come on all mean, moody and magnificent; **St Etienne** do no

Dark side of the looning

IT USED to be said that James were Manchester's best-kept secret. While every other band that ever passed through the portals of the Hacienda found itself hailed as the nation's Next Big Thing, Tim Booth and Co seemed destined to edge towards middle age as purely local heroes. Formed in 1983 and subsequently garlanded with praise by both the music press and celebrity fans such as Morrissey and Neil Young, they seemed likely to remain textbook under-achievers until, three years ago, the single "Sit Down" percolated on to daytime radio.

In the wake of that breakthrough, singer and writer Booth has presided over something of a commercial retreat. *Laid*, their recent album, produced by Brian Eno, was on first hearing a wilful piece of work. Its 13 songs bore little trace of the irresistible pop spirit with which the group had finally achieved chart success; instead, its dour and downbeat mood seemed guaranteed to confuse listeners hoping for another dose of stadium chords. And at the Brixton Academy, before an admittedly adoring crowd, James proved unwilling still to take the easy path to success. Booth was all but an anti-frontman — so much so that he didn't even allow himself a solo spotlight.

True, his fans threw themselves into the air with elation when, after performing such recent material as "Say Something" and "Knuckle Too Far", he finally introduced "Sit Down". But it was to their credit that elsewhere they embraced the evening's dark and introspective mood, without perhaps knowing its cause.

Two days earlier, London's music industry had learnt of the too-early death of Phillip Hall, one of its best-loved and most respected PRs, and the man responsible for bringing not only James but also such acts as the Beautiful South, Manic Street Preachers and the Stone Roses to a wider public. Booth dedicated a fine version of "Out To Get You" to his memory, and in doing so provided the emotional high point of a complex but nonetheless rewarding set.

ALAN JACKSON

Nil-nil draw on the night

THE history of rock 'n' roll has better stories to hand down than the one which unfolded at the Forum, NW5. St Etienne — ever bright, ever poppy — are a band that it is hard to dislike and even they did not deserve a sound system that threw their songs around like a ship in a gale.

Stereoland, at least, proved to have sailors' stomachs. This septet were brought in as special guests for St Etienne's last date on this mini-tour, and the Forum's echoing pit proved the perfect sounding board for their intriguing and lugubrious songs.

Of course, St Etienne's Sarah Cracknell looked a vision in her white pixie boots and chartreuse mini-dress. Supermodels probably dream about her blonde hair. Certainly members of the audience do. The full-throated approbation that greeted her entry eclipsed not only the rest of the band but that of guest compere and quiz show host Dale Winton, who wheeled a supermarket trolley on stage and slung crackers (and possibly packs of digestive biscuits) to the audice below. Pete Wiggs led St Etiennento "Join Our Club". "Ba-ba-bub-bude-bub", chorused Sarah. Her tuninpas flimsy.

Two albums — *Foxbase Alphand So Tough* — prove that in the stuc St Etienne get it right every time.ob Stanley and Wiggs are playful ngwriters with an accurate ear f a melody line. But it was a haphard affair on stage. For live purpose St Etienne had left Stanley in the Dlox and imported backing singers nd musicians. There were a few gden moments. The long harmonica brks in "Avenue" created a dreamy atosphere and "Who Do You Think ıu Are?" remains a nicely turned thin

Yet these were exceptions. By the time St Etienne got round to their last single, "I Was Born On Christmas Day", the Tube station outside as closing. Waiting to see if the Charlatans' Tim Burgess — Cracknell's co-vocalist on this duet — turned up is, for many, too great a risk. Disappointment could have turned an otherwise tepid night stone cold.

LOUISE GRY

CLASSICAL: A Russian veteran in fine form

Well-seasoned pathos

Philharmonia / Svetlanov
Festival Hall

THERE was a point in the hurtling momentum of the march of Tchaikovsky's Sixth Symphony at which Yevgeny Svetlanov stopped conducting altogether. With both arms at his side, he simply stood to attention as if proud to watch the march-past. Few conductors would relinquish their grip at this moment; and few could.

Svetlanov, though, has done all the work before, for 60 years of his life: at the Bolshoi, with the Russian State Symphony, now at The Hague, and with orchestras like the Philharmonia who enthusiastically welcome him as a frequent guest to London. To hear his Tchaikovsky is to realise how long he has lived with it, and also how mistaken are the many conductors who think they can read so easily its mind and heart.

Every performance yields a startling new secret. This time it was the structural and emotive power of those upward glissandi in the first and last movements, turned by Svetlanov, who stretches them as far as they will go, into great aching gasps for breath. And then the waltz of the second movement, no longer ambivalent, but with every step prolonged and swept onward with the heavy impetus of the dance.

The Philharmonia responded, as every orchestra does, with both excitement and respect. And as Tchaikovsky's writing wound down, woodwind soloists were given as much space as if they were singers: their melodic out-breathing formed the inevitable counter-rhythm to the obsessive motivic in-gathering of the strings.

In the first half of the evening Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No 2 opened with a long, triumphant climb out of darkness for both Rachmaninov and the Philharmonia. This, after all, was the work which gave the composer a new lease of musical life after a period of profound and a[illegible] depression.

Peter Donohoe, whose long crescendo of hard-edged chords seemed to symbolise a supreme effort of will, gave the sort of big-boned performance which provided a strong and totally reliable framework for what became, in Svetlanov's hands, a most sensitively detailed concerto for orchestra. Tonight sees Svetlanov's second Rachmaninov and Tchaikovsky concert with the Philharmonia — this time with Vladimir Ovchinikov as soloist pianist. Be there.

HILARY FINCH

ENTERTAINMENTS

ART GALLERIES

LEFEVRE GALLERY 30 Bruton St, W1. 071-493 2107. Costume designs by EDWARD BURRA. 8-21 December. Mon-Fri 10-5pm.

SPINK, King Street, St James's, SW1. OPENS TODAY 6-17 December. RARE KOREAN CERAMICS OF THE YI DYNASTY Mon-Fri, 9am-5.30pm, Tues until 7.30pm.

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 071 836 3161 (24hr) ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA Wed 7.30 DIE FLEDERMAUS

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 071 240 1066/1911. Tickets avail on the day. Stand-by info 836 6903. THE ROYAL OPERA Ton't 7.30 Tosca. THE ROYAL BALLET. Tomor 7.30 Ballet Imperial/Tales of Beatrix Potter.

SADLERS WELLS inc cc 071 278 8916/cc 071 497 9977 (bkg fee) 8-18 DEC Adventures in Motion Pictures "A dazzlingly imaginative new version" S.Times THE NUTCRACKER FROM 21 DEC - 8 JAN Black Light Theatre of Prague PETER PAN "Like magic come true" Times.

THEATRES

ADELPHI "A genuine triumph" D. Mail "Andrew Lloyd Webber's most persuasive Score" New Yorker SUNSET BOULEVARD "Oh what a glorious Sunset!" D.Exp "It out - Oklahomas 'Oklahoma!'" Wall St Journal 24HR CREDIT CARD BOOKINGS CALL 071 344 0055 (bkg fee) GROUP BKG 071 413 3302 (bkg fee) NO BKG FEE FOR PERSONAL CALLERS AT THE ADELPHI BOX OFFICE Recorded Information 071 379 8884 Mon-Sat 8.00 Mats Thu & Sat 3.00 EXTRA XMAS MATS DEC 21 & 24 AT 3.00: NOW BOOKING TO APRIL 94 QUEUE DAILY FOR RETURNS

ALBERY THEATRE 071 867 1115/1111cc or 24hrs/bkg fee 071 344 4444 Grps 071 867 1115 or 413 3321 "GIZZARDGULPING FAMILY FUN" Times THE BFG of Roald Dahl's whizzcracking story SAVE £18 - ask box office for details Most days 2 & 7pm. Sat 11am, 2.30 & 7pm.

ALDWYCH 071 836 6404/497 9977 Group Sales 071 930 6123 "UNMISSABLE" Time Out "OUTSTANDING" D. Tel The Royal National Theatre's multi award-winning production of J.B. Priestley's AN INSPECTOR CALLS "As concentrated a piece of theatrical perfection as you will find anywhere" Today "I URGE YOU TO SEE IT" D.Mail Mon-Fri 7.45, Sat 5/8.15 Wed mat 2.30 Now booking until March '94

AMBASSADORS 071 836 6111/1171 cc 497 9977/344 4444 (No bkfee) EILEEN ATKINS PENELOPE WILTON VITA AND VIRGINIA "CUT-GLASS CLASS" Daily Mail Tues-Sat 8.00 Wed Mats 2.30 Sat & Sun Mats 3.30 MUST END SUNDAY

APOLLO 071 494 5070/071 344 4444/497 9977 (All 24hrs/No bkg fee) Groups 494 5454/413 3321 "THE BEST PARTY IN TOWN" D.M "FOREVER PLAID" Mons are Xmas Party Nights! Mulled wine & meet the cast! Call 494-5070 for details Mon-Thu eves 8, Fri & Sat 6pm+8.30 Fri 6pm all seats half price!

APOLLO VICTORIA SS cc 630 6262 Groups 828 6188/413 3321 cc 24hr 071 344 4444/497 9977 "Andrew Lloyd Webber's New production of STARLIGHT EXPRESS "A REBORN THEATRICAL DELIGHT" Daily Mail White knuckle runs 19.45 daily Tue & Sat 15.00 Tickets from £10.00 - £30.00 EXTRA XMAS MATS DEC 23 & 24 AT 3.00

BLOOMSBURY THEATRE BO/CC 071 387 9629 From December 20. Daily at 3pm. Some morning perfs at 11.30am Please check with Box Office. SOOTY AT CHRISTMAS

CAMBRIDGE WC2 BO/CC 071 494 5080/071 344 4444 Grps 071 413 3321 "A FANTASTIC 70'S MUSICAL Abba, Glitter, Bowie & Queen meet the devil in this year's biggest cult hit musical" Capital Gold * HOT STUFF * "Truly roaring across the West End stage in a frenzy" Today JANUARY SALE ALL SEATS £10 From Jan 3rd except Sat 8.30. Mon-Thu 8 Fri & Sat 5.30 & 8.30

COMEDY BO/CC 071 867 1045/071 867 1111/344 4444 IAN HOLM ANNA MASSEY Evening Standard Actor of the Year in HAROLD PINTER'S MOONLIGHT "It moved me to tears. Go, and you will see a GREAT PLAY" D Mail "This play has everything going for it" F LAST 3 WEEKS! Mon-Sat 8 Mats Wed 3 Sat 5

CRITERION 839 4488 cc 344 4444 LOOKING THROUGH A GLASS ONION JOHN LENNON IN WORD & MUSIC "The best sounds in town" What's On Mon-Fri 8.00 Sat 6.00 & 9.00

DOMINION Ticketlines 081 900 1957 071 580 8845/9562. Grps 071 636 0875 413 3321 / 396 4747 GREASE Starring CRAIG McLACHLAN and DEBBIE GIBSON "A monster hit" Daily Mirror Eves 7.30pm Mats Wed & Sat 3pm EXTRA XMAS MAT DEC 24 AT 2.00 NO EVE PERF

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL cc (Bkg fee) 24hr 7 days 071 494 5001/344 4444/240 7200/379 9901 Grps 831 8625/494 5454 MISS SAIGON "THE CLASSIC LOVE STORY OF OUR TIME" NOW IN ITS 5TH FABULOUS YEAR! Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3pm EXTRA XMAS MATS DEC 20 & 24 AT 3.00 Good seats avail for Wed Mat & some perfs apply B.O. FOR TELEPHONE POSTAL BOOKINGS/PERSONAL CALLERS 071 494 5060 BKG FEE

DUCHESS cc 071 494 5070 cc 344 4444 (no bkg fee)/836 2428 (bkg fee) 071-413 3321 Eves 8pm, Wed mat 3pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30 24 Dec 5pm Only NOW IN ITS 3RD YEAR "A SAUCY COMEDY" E. Std DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER "Gloriously Outrageous" T.Out

DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE 071 836 5122 cc 836 9837 24hrs/7 days 836 3464, 344 4444 DAVID SUCHET LIA WILLIAMS OLEANNA by David Mamet Directed by Harold Pinter "Riveting new play" D. Tel Eves 7.30, Thur Mat 3, Sat Mat 4 No latecomers admitted

FORTUNE BO & CC 836 2238 CC 344 4444 (24hrs/no bkg fee)/497 9977 (bkg fee) Grps 930 6123 JOHN NETTLETON BRIAN DEACON Susan Hill's THE WOMAN IN BLACK Adapted by Stephen Mallatratt "The most chilling and thrilling play for years" D Mail Eves 8pm Mats Tue 3pm Sat 4pm Now booking until March '94

GARRICK THEATRE BO/CC 071 494 5085 (bkg fee)/CC (24 hrs) 344 4444 Grps 071 494 5454 STEVEN BERKOFF ONE MAN "Grippingly funny...Hilarious" T.Out "Riveting... Hypnotising... Memorable" S.Tel Ltd Season Mon-Sat 8pm (no mats) MUST END JAN 1

GARRICK THEATRE BO/CC 071 494 5085 (bkg fee)/CC (24 hrs) 344 4444 Grps 071 494 5454 STEVEN BERKOFF ONE MAN "Grippingly funny...Hilarious" T.Out "Riveting... Hypnotising... Memorable" S.Tel Ltd Season Mon-Sat 8pm (no mats)

GLOBE BO/CC 071 494 5067/071 344 4444/497 9977 Grps 930 6123 TOM CONTI GABRIELLE DRAKE JUDY LOE & JENNY SEAGROVE in NOEL COWARD'S PRESENT LAUGHTER "I was CAPTIVATED and DAZZLED by its charm and fizz... A TRIUMPH" D Mail FINAL WEEK! Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Thur & Sat 3

GLOBE BO/CC 071 494 5067 THE PETER HALL COMPANY FELICITY KENDALL GRIFF RHYS JONES AN ABSOLUTE TURKEY Red price previews from 27 Dec

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL BO/CC 071 930 8800 24hrs no bkg fee RSC production of THE TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA "AN UNDOUBTED HIT" Obs. by William Shakespeare with music by Gershwin & Cole Porter From 14 Dec 37 perfs only EXTRA MATS DEC 23 & 30 at 3.00pm

HER MAJESTY'S 24hr 494 5400 (bkg fee) CC 344 4444/497 9977 (bkg fee) Group Sales 071 930 6123 ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S AWARD WINNING MUSICAL THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Directed by HAROLD PRINCE Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00 NOW BOOKING TO 17 DEC 1994 APPLY DAILY FOR RETURNS

LON. PALLADIUM 24hr BO/CC 071 494 5020 (£1 per Tkt Serv Chge) 071 344 4444/497 9977 Serv Chge Mon-Thu/bkg fee Fri-Sat) Groups 494 5455 (£1 per Tkt Serv Chge) Andrew Lloyd Webber's "exuberant new production" Std of "Tim Rice & Andrew Lloyd Webber's Palladium Blockbuster" Gdn JOSEPH & THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT Dir by STEVEN PIMLOTT Starring JASON DONOVAN Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30 QUEUE DAILY FOR RETURNS This production must end 15 Jan

LYRIC, Shafts Ave Bo & cc 071 494 5045 cc 071 344 4444 All tel lines 24hr/7 days (bkg fee). cc 497 9977 Grps 071 930 6123 The Joint Never Stops Jumpin FIVE GUYS NAMED MOE THE OLIVIER AWARD WINNING MUSICAL 3RD GREAT YEAR Mon-Thu 8 Fri & Sat at 6 & 8.45 EXTRA XMAS PERF DEC 23 AT 6.00

LYRIC HAMMERSMITH 081 741 2311 or (24hrs/no bkg fee) 071 836 3464 * * * XMAS AT THE LYRIC * * * 14 Dec-22 Jan, Mon-Sat 7.45 (24,31 Dec 6.00. 25,27 Dec no perf) Northern Broadsides' 'HILARIOUS' Tel MERRY WIVES by Shakespeare 14 Dec-16 Jan (incl Sundays) Morning & afternoon perfs NODDY 'Magical, spellbinding' Times STUDIO 081 741 8701 14 Dec-8 Jan PLAYHOUSE CREATURES Evs 8.00 (20 Dec 7.00) Mats 1, 8 Jan 4.00

NATIONAL THEATRE BO 071 928 2252 Grps 071 620 0741; 24hr cc bkg fee 071 497 9977 OLIVIER Ton't 7.15, Tomor 2.00 & 7.15 THE ABSENCE OF WAR David Hare COTTESLOE Ton't 7.00, Tomor 1.00 MILLENNIUM APPROACHES Tony Kushner. Tomor 7.00 PERESTROIKA Tony Kushner.

NEW LONDON Drury Lane BO 071 405 0072 CC 071 404 4079 24hr 344 4444. Grps 930 6123 THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER /T.S. ELIOT INTERNATIONAL AWARD-WINNING MUSICAL CATS Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.00 EXTRA XMAS MATS DEC 20, 22 & 24 AT 3.00: Special signed perf 20 Dec at 3 LATECOMERS NOT ADMITTED WHILE AUDITORIUM IS IN MOTION, PLEASE BE PROMPT. Bars open at 6.45 LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL. DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE

OLD VIC 071 928 7616 / CC 071 497 9977 Groups 071 930 6123 28 Dec - 8 Jan PATRICK STEWART in A CHRISTMAS CAROL

PALACE THEATRE 071-434 0909 cc 24hrs (bkg fee) 071-344 4444/497 9977/071 793 1000 Group Sales 071 930 6123 Groups 071 494 1671 THE WORLD'S MOST POPULAR MUSICAL LES MISERABLES Eves 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30 EXTRA MATS DEC 20, 22 & 24 at 2.30. NO EVE PERF DEC 24 NO MAT DEC 23 Latecomers not admitted until the interval LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL. DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE

PHOENIX BO/CC 867 1044 867 1111/344 4444 (fee) 497 9977 BEST MUSICAL ALL 4 MAJOR AWARDS WILLY RUSSELL'S BLOOD BROTHERS STEPHANIE LAWRENCE with CARL WAYNE "ASTONISHING" S Express ...Brings the audience to its feet, and roaring its approval" D Mail Eves 7.45 Mats Thurs 3 Sat 4

PICCADILLY BO/CC 867 1118/071 867 1111/344 4444 ELAINE PAIGE in PIAF A musical play by PAM GEMS Directed by PETER HALL OPENS TONIGHT AT 7.00: Eves 8.00 Mats Wed, Sat 3.00 Wed Matinee's LORRAINE BRUNNING will play the role of Piaf. All seats £10

PLAYHOUSE BO/CC 071 839 4401 TIM PIGOTT SMITH in JANE EYRE Adapted by Fay Weldon Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Thu & Sat at 3.00

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A to Z of the necropolis

Peter Ackroyd on a new anthology about a city which, not least due to its writers, is the greatest on earth



The Staple Inn at Holborn (1586 and later) is a fine example of the architecture which dominated London until brick replaced timber as the main building material in the 1620s. From *Elizabethan and Jacobean Style* by Timothy Mowl (Phaidon, £29.95): a handsome book, full of surprises

Behind Old St Pancras Church, where St Augustine preached and where the Saxons worshipped, there is a tree growing out of the litter of some 20 or 30 broken graves; the narrow headstones are packed together, like the people and the traffic in the thoroughfare beyond, but the tree has grown through them and risen into the outer air.

This is a true image of the metropolis, worthy of a place in Quarles's *Emblems* or Doré's mournful etchings; in this entertaining anthology Rose Macaulay provides a fortuitous commentary of her own. She is describing the spirit of the long forgotten City churches: "But you can say, you can guess that it is you yourself, your own roots, that clutch the stony rubbish, the branches of your own being that grow from it and from nowhere else." This, in other words, is London.

THE FABER BOOK OF LONDON
Edited by A.N. Wilson
Faber, £17.50

Of course there are other forms of resurrection. One of the longest entries in this volume concerns the discovery and subsequent pillage of John Milton's tomb: strands of hair, fragments of shroud and pieces of skin were taken away while the excited public were allowed (at a price) to view the corpse with the aid of the sexton's candle.

It was a touch of brilliance on the part of the editor of the collection, A.N. Wilson, to reprint this otherwise forgotten episode of cultural history since, of all cities, London has been the home of graveyard literature. Perhaps no spot on earth has provoked more elegies on human mortality than the interior of Westminster Abbey, for example, and of the three included here perhaps the greatest is Addison's: he wanders among the tombs and considers "that great day when we shall all of us be contemporaries, and make our appearance together."

In this anthology itself the writers have also become contemporaries, from Aubrey to Stevie Smith, from Defoe to Michael Moorcock; and in that sense the book provides an apt image of the city which it celebrates — in London, the living and the dead exist together in a place which is more enduring than the tread of the generations passing across it. It is not surprising that the vision of the London mystics has always been of some heavenly city, some New Jerusalem in which the elements of London may be redeemed. That is why the monuments and public places of the city are part of the same visionary company: there is an excellent evocation here of the great railway stations by John Betjeman, and a vivid depiction of Covent Garden Market by Charles Dickens.

In this collection, also, there are certain patches of soil, or streets, or squares, or gardens, which are memorialised — Thackeray's lines on the Inns of Court must echo the thoughts of a thousand other dreamers who have come upon that silent enclave within the rushing city (Fountain Court is perhaps the most peaceful place in the whole of London) and Augustus Hare's description of Bunhill Fields, where Blake and Bunyan lie buried, is an apt reminder of that great necropolis of Dissenters. It is now almost forgotten.

In his introduction, Wilson does an excellent job of conveying the sense of adventure and excitement which can accompany even the shortest London walk. Heterogeneous districts, garish or desperate in turn, spring up around the unwary traveller. In this anthology, we will find Iris Murdoch in the Goldhawk Road, Osbert Lancaster in North Kensington, Iain Sinclair in Spitalfields and Anthony Powell in Soho.

It is perhaps surprising how many writers dwell upon ruin and desolation (of course there are many passages on the Blitz); but there is truth even to this general image. London has always been, in part, a ruined city, continually being destroyed and continually rebuilt, so that one novelist may visit a portion of broken London Wall only to find "ghosts haunting the ancestral dreams memory".

That is why there are "characters", as Wilson calls them, who seem to emerge fully-grown from the alleys and lanes of the capital — the shopkeepers, the market-traders, the old ladies, the frequenters of the Reading Room within the British Museum, the vagrants, are all part of the everlasting texture of London life. Wilson includes here both Silas Wegg and the Duke of Wellington, both Swinburne and Rumpole, for the simple reason that, in the great city, fact and fiction, real life and melodrama, are never wholly to be distinguished.

But it would be unwise to become too elegiac about a place which has also harboured the extremes of human cruelty and oppression. There are descriptions here of the poor, of the deranged, of bear-baiting and dog-killing. This volume actually opens with "The face on Waterloo Steps", an image of "inert despair" which sums up all the dreary miseries of the crowd; but even from the well of human suffering, London writers draw up their own particular draught.

There is a distinction to be made between writing about London and writing by Londoners: Wordsworth's meditations on a street beggar or Eliot's lucubrations on London Bridge weave fantastic shapes of foreign reverie and speculation around the details of urban life. True London writers, like Defoe or Mayhew, confront the same destitution and misery; but they combine astute observation with something very much like high spirits (Charles Dickens is the great examplar of this style). Wilson describes this characteristic London response as being one of "vulgar cruelty" and "hardness"; he is right, of course, but the city itself seems to demand such a response. In a place where the extremes of the human conditions jostle side by side; where great wealth and poverty walk the streets together; where "the forward and the vain" make their usual uproar among the humble and the melancholic, the elements of tragedy and of farce are always to be found in close proximity: this is the "hardness" which Wilson has discovered and it is indeed often very "vulgar", but it has produced masterpieces of urban literature.

It is the same "hardness" which travellers found when they arrived in London, only to be confronted by citizens such as the one who in the 18th century explained to Casanova: "What we want to know about a man is *how much has he got?*" It might be easy to say, then, that nothing much has changed over these centuries: but that would be quite wrong. London was once a much noisier, more dangerous and more licentious city: mothers brought their children to the Haymarket in order to sell them for sex; mobs and rioters often controlled entire districts of the city; and, as Wilson puts it, "every privately owned house was an armed stronghold".

Yet there is also a continuity which this anthology celebrates — London remains the greatest city on earth and, even if tomorrow it became as desolate as Sidon or as Tyre, it will live for ever in the writings which have been assembled here.

Minotaur and minor mystic

Rosemary Clunie

PICASSO
Life and Work
By Pierre Daix
Thames & Hudson, £19.95

BEN NICHOLSON
By Jeremy Lewison
Tate Gallery, £25

BEN NICHOLSON
By Norbert Lynton
Phaidon, £69.95

BLOOMSBURY
Edited by Gillian Naylor
Mitchell Beazley, £19.95

The minotaur lurking in the heart of Picasso's labyrinth is an enigma: the more we dissect, analyse, catalogue his works, the more elusive and mysterious his oeuvre becomes. This is hardly surprising, given that he believed art is "a form of magic designed as a mediator between this strange, hostile world and us". Daix's *Picasso* is a concentrated, impacted testament to this transcendent titan of the imagination. He records the reactions to Picasso of the best minds of his generation. Louis Aragon said: "Picasso had no youth." Apollinaire wrote: "This Spaniard batters us like a dry cold. His meditations strip themselves naked in silence." Derain told Kahnweiler that one day Picasso would be found hanging behind *Les Demoiselles d'Avignon*.

The anarchist intensity of the Bateau-Lavoir circle, the amicable competitiveness of "la cordée" with Braque, the distillation of an era of horror that was *Guernica*, the loves, births and losses — here the atmosphere of a rich life and work is lucidly evoked. Picasso speaks for himself: "A tenor who reaches a note even higher than what's written in his part. Me!" Or: "I am conscious of having always through my painting struggled as a committed revolutionary." Or: "Art has no past, no future. Art which is not in the present will never exist."

Daix has the precision of a cataloguer and, particularly in the early sections, the reader may feel intellectual indigestion at the concentration of so much detail. Yet Daix's long friendship and work with Picasso, as well as his own eminence as man of letters, enable him to make a contribution to the meaning behind the enigma.

Ben Nicholson was born 13 years after Picasso, also the son of a painter, lived a long life of intense productivity and many female companions — again, like Picasso. His influence, however, has not been remotely comparable. Both the catalogue of the recent Tate exhibition and the first full-length monograph by Norbert Lynton seek to stake his claim as "one of the greatest artists of the 20th century".

Both publications are excellent introductions to Nicholson, the man and his art. The essay in the Tate catalogue, "The Making of a Reputation", is especially illuminating on the subject of artists as pawns of nationalism: "between 1947 and 1960 [Nicholson] was represented in 40 exhibitions organised by the British Council. With the possible exception of Henry Moore no other artist was so frequently selected." With this backing, and the tireless championing of Herbert Read, his international reputation could not fail to yield major prizes.

Lynton's sympathetic monograph is eloquent in its interpretation of Nicholson's private language: "[Read] said that BN was 'something of a mystic' seeking to express a reality that has nothing to do with realism." Nicholson himself wrote: "As I see it, painting and religious experience are the same thing, and what we are all searching for is the understanding and the realisation of infinity." Obviously Nicholson had the highest artistic ideals.

How therefore has Nicholson — belonging as he did to the European artistic avant garde in his youth, exhibiting with Picasso, Miró, Léger, Mondrian, Gris et al — faded with time, whereas several of his colleagues still speak to us today? Nicholson's art is quiet, reflective, sometimes beautiful: like an old stone washed up by the sea.



Vanessa Bell (left) with Molly McCarthy, 1914, from Richard Shone's *Bloomsbury Portraits* (Phaidon, £19.95 pbk reissue)

According to Lewison, "one of the principal subjects [of his work] is the accretions of time".

And yet: while Nicholson's art undoubtedly has integrity and while comparisons are odious, there is a living spark in the most minor Picasso sketch that seems lacking in Nicholson's finest paintings. Picasso's *Les Demoiselles d'Avignon* at the Museum of Modern Art in New York is as moving and fresh as Michelangelo's Pietà in St Peter's: it is still alive. It has that mysterious, supremely rare quality which is art that cannot be outdated by subsequent imitations, derivations or the quirks of fashion: it cannot be worn down by the millions of eyes that have beheld its power like the hands of medieval stone saints by penitents' kisses. Nicholson's meditations are refined mind games compared to the blast of human passion that confronts us in Picasso.

Gillian Naylor's pot-pourri of extracts from Bloomsbury members' own writings, with lavish illustrations, is a splendid introduction to the subject for those whose appetite for the intimate details of the natives of Charleston has not been thoroughly quenched by the already considerable Bloomsbury industry. It should make a thoroughly safe Christmas present.

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Physician, steel thyself



George Platt Lyne's 1950 study of Dr Alfred C. Kinsey, from *George Platt Lyne* (Bulfinch: Little, Brown, £40)

Adam Zeman

THE LITERARY COMPANION TO MEDICINE
By Richard Gordon
Sinclair-Stevenson, £18

With medicine in mind, Shaw remarked in *The Doctor's Dilemma*: "All professions are conspiracies against the laity." Gordon's *Companion to Medicine* is unlikely to reassure you on this, but its assortment of medical writings, rumbustious and poignant will undoubtedly entertain. The choices range from the touching to the stomach-turning: take in small doses, well after meals.

Were this book a scholarly account of the complex relationship between literature and medicine, it would surely be much less fun. It consists, in fact, of passages of prose and poetry with some claim to a medical connection: written by doctors or concerning them.

Assembling such a collection was a task for a highly literate medic. The author of the *Doctor in the House* is admirably qualified. Real sympathy for his colleagues and deep amusement at their antics are both in evidence.

The very first passage, from the *Pickwick Papers*, depicts "the most disgusting figure" — in Shaw's later view — "in modern civilisation": the medical student. Nothing has changed. The irrepressible dreadfulness of Jack Hopkin's conversation is all too familiar to my ear: "Rather a good accident brought into the casualty ward... only a man fallen out of a four pair of stairs window; — but it's a very fair case — very fair case indeed."

Gordon revels in the atmosphere of the medical student's revue, and he defends his taste, writing of Tobias Smollett: "If he was fundamentally coarse, so is life." In this irreverent spirit Gordon takes on "our ultimate conversational taboo" in one of his selections. I leave you to guess: it is neither sex nor death.

His asides are amusing. Of Thomas Malthus: "His fundamental argument against joyfully unhampered conception was that the population increases by geometrical progression but food supplies by arithmetical — a mathematical item unlikely to be in the forefront of the mind in the heat of the moment." Of Arthur Conan Doyle: "He developed angina while still a fervent spiritualist and died, possibly out of curiosity."

They are also enlightening. The surgeon, Sir Frederick Treves, cancelled King Edward VII's coronation, submitting him instead to "an appendicectomy upstairs at Buckingham Palace". Some years before this, he had befriended John Merrick, describing his deformities in the *British Medical Journal*, and later immortalising him as "The Elephant Man". Treves was a remarkable writer: any doctor who has ever worried about one of his decisions, or indeed anyone who has ever worried about anything, will find in the story reproduced here, "The Idol with Hands of Clay", a distillation of horror.

Although Gordon does not shun greatness — both Shakespeare and Tolstoy are represented — the inclusion of some fine but obscure writers is a strength of the collection. He also includes authors he claims to find severally "boring", "trite" and "monstrously smug", but they belie his words. There is a feast of memorable description: from John Brown's word-picture of the huge mastiff, Rab, "as of thunder asleep, but ready", to Stevenson's scene-setting for a sinister awakening — by grave robbers — in Edinburgh: "There was a thin, bright moonshine; it was bitter cold, windy and frosty; the town had not yet awaked, but an indefinable stir already preluded the noise and business of the day."

While it is never laboured, there is a moral to many of these tales. It concerns the value of individual lives. Those so brazen as to minister to the sick owe them a deep duty of thoughtful care. It is well described by James Bridie, playwright and professor of medicine: "You all know that beautiful picture... which shows a middle-aged man scratching his beard and wondering what the devil is the matter with a sick child he is expected to cure. That is the master-condition of all honest men who live by the practice of medicine — 'what the devil is the matter?' they ask themselves continually from the lobby to the bedside; from the bedside to the post-mortem room and after that. When that questioning is answered or ignored, we know that the devil himself has taken the wicked doctor into his keeping."



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DIRECTOR

The full-time post of Director of the Independent Schools Joint Council's Accreditation, Review and Consultancy Service falls vacant on 1 September 1994.

The Director is responsible for the overall management of the Service which has two roles: firstly, inspecting and reporting on independent schools already in or seeking membership of one of the ISJC's constituent associations; secondly, providing a consultancy service for independent schools.

A three year renewable contract is envisaged, with an annual salary negotiable in the region of £30,000.

Experience with HM Inspectorate of Schools, or similar work, essential. Please send applications, with full CV, by 31 December 1993 to:

Dr Arthur Hearnden
General Secretary
Independent Schools Joint Council
Grosvenor Gardens House
35-37 Grosvenor Gardens
London SW1W OBS

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 071-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

ROXBURGHE BANK LIMITED (IN ADMINISTRATION)

A Court Meeting of the creditors of Roxburghe Bank Limited (In Administration) ("Roxburghe") has been convened by Order of the Court to consider and, if thought fit approve, the proposed Scheme of Arrangement between Roxburghe and its creditors under Section 426 of the Companies Act 1985. A copy of the Notice of the Court Meeting is set out below

NOTICE OF MEETING
No 0010483 of 1993
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION MR REGISTRAR BUCKLEY
IN THE MATTER OF ROXBURGHE BANK LIMITED (In Administration)
- and -
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, by an Order dated 7th December, 1993 made in the above matters, the Court has directed a Meeting to be convened of the Scheme Creditors of the Company (as defined in the Scheme of Arrangement hereinafter mentioned) for the purpose of considering and, if thought fit, approving (with or without modification) a Scheme of Arrangement proposed to be made between the above named Roxburghe Bank Limited (in administration) (hereinafter called the "Company") and the Scheme Creditors of the company, and that such Meeting will be held at No 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL on 18th January, 1994 commencing at 11a.m., at which place and time all such Scheme Creditors of the Company are requested to attend either in person or by proxy.

A copy of the said Scheme of Arrangement and of the Explanatory Statement required to be furnished pursuant to section 426 of the Companies Act 1985 are contained in the document of which this Notice forms part and in which the said Scheme of Arrangement is defined as "the Scheme".

The said Scheme Creditors may vote in person at the said Meeting or they may appoint another person whether a Scheme Creditor of the company or not, as their proxy to attend and vote in their place

To be valid Forms of Proxy must be lodged with the Administrators of the Company, Price Waterhouse (ref AVL) No 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL England, before the time appointed for the Meeting or, if not so lodged, must be submitted to the Chairman of the Meeting immediately before the commencement of the said Meeting

By the said Order, the Court has appointing Anthony Victor Lomas or failing him, Colin Graham Bird to act as Chairmen of the said Meeting and has directed the Chairman to report the result thereof to the Court.

The said Scheme of Arrangement will be subject to the subsequent approval of the Court.

Dated 8 December, 1993.

Travers Smith Braithwaite, 10 Snow Hill London EC1A 2AL Solicitors for the above-named Company acting by its Joint Administrators

The Joint Administrators have issued a statement to creditors explaining the effect of the Scheme of Arrangement. creditors entitled to attend the meeting may obtain copies of the statement, free of charge, by contacting the Joint Administrators at the following address, and stating details of the address to which the document should be sent.

The Joint Administrators, Roxburghe Bank Limited (In Administration), c/o Price Waterhouse (ref AVL) No 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL. UNITED KINGDOM Telephone: 071 378 8998 Facsimile 071 939 6176

The Insolvency Act 1986
GTL GROUP LIMITED
(In Liquidation)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that R R A CALLAGHAN of Chantry Vellacott, Russell Square House, 10-12 Russell Square London, WC1B 5LF, was appointed Liquidator of the said Company by the Members and Creditors on 7th December 1993. Dated this 7th December 1993 R R A CALLAGHAN, Liquidator

THORNPOST TRADING LIMITED (IN ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERSHIP)

Registered Number: 2137070

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 46(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the unsecured creditors of the above named company will be held at St Alphage House, 2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5DH at 10.30 am on 12th January 1994 for the purposes of having laid before it a copy of the report prepared by the administrative receiver(s) under the Act. The meeting may, if it thinks fit, establish a creditors committee to exercise the functions conferred on creditors' committees by or under the Act.

Creditors wishing to vote at the meeting must lodge with me at 4th Floor, St Alphage House, 2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5DH no later than 12 noon on 11th January 1994 details of the debts they claim to be due to them by the company, together with any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on its behalf at the meeting.

8th December 1993
Ladaskay Herman
Joint Administrative Receiver
NOTE: Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or to be represented at the meeting.

OLD IO LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above-named Company will be held at 1 Surrey Street, London, WC2R 2NT on 15 December 1993 at 3 pm for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99 to 101 of the said Act.

A list of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at 1 Surrey Street, London, WC2R 2NT between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on the two business days immediately before the day fixed for the meeting.

Creditors wishing to vote at the Meeting must lodge a full statement of account (proof of debt) and a proxy at PO Box 55, 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2NT no later than 12 noon on the business day before the day fixed for the Meeting. Unless there are exceptional circumstances, a creditor will not be entitled to vote unless his proof has been lodged and admitted for voting purposes. Secured creditors must, unless they surrender their security, give particulars of their security and assess value if they wish to vote at the Meeting.
By Order of the Liquidator
M FISHMAN

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION ORDER

A J M Stainless Limited
Registered Number: 2183208
Nature of Business: Steel fabrication
Trade Classification: 06
Administration Order Made: 8 December 1993
Joint Administrators: N J Dargan, Office Holder No 8024 & P H Bendall, Office Holder No 1190, Touche Ross, Abbey House, 74 Mosley Street, Manchester, M60 2AT.

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

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LEGAL NOTICES

CAMFRAN RENTALS (UNLIMITED COMPANY) (IN MEMBERS VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
Company number: 741599
NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS OF CAMFRAN RENTALS (UNLIMITED COMPANY)

On 1 December 1993 the company was placed in members' voluntary liquidation and David John Blenkarn of Price Waterhouse was appointed liquidator by the shareholders.

The liquidator gives notice under the provisions of Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to the liquidator, at The Quay, 30 Channel Way, Ocean Village, Southampton, SO1 1XF by 14 January 1994 which is the last day for proving claims. The liquidator also gives notice that he will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.

The company is able to pay all its known creditors in full.
Date 8 December 1993
D J Blenkarn
Liquidator
DJB/RLM/SMVCL61/090LP

ACKETTS MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL LIMITED
THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986

In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 notice is hereby given that Peter Stewart Fleaner of Grant Thornton, Grant Thornton House, Melton Street, Euston Square, London NW1 2EP was appointed liquidator of the above company by the creditors on 24 November 1993.
DATED THIS 24th DAY OF NOVEMBER 1993
Peter Fletcher
Liquidator

The Insolvency Act 1986
J Price (Kings Cross) Limited
(In Liquidation)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Derrington, of Poplecton & Appleby, 4 Charterhouse Square, London EC1M 1EN, was appointed Liquidator of the said Company by the members and creditors on 6th December 1993. Dated this 6th day of December 1993
M.R. DORRINGTON
Liquidator

LEGAL NOTICES

LESSER DESIGN & BUILD LIMITED
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the creditors of the above named Company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required on or before 15 January 1994, to send in their full Christian and Surnames, their addresses and description, full particular of their debts or claims, and the names addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned, David Julian Bucher, of Butcher Phillips, 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
D J Butcher
Liquidator
Dated: 1 December 1993

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that a Special General Meeting of members of Scottish Amicable Life Assurance Society will be held at Amicable House, 150 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5NQ on Wednesday 5 January 1994 at 10.30 am for the purpose of proposing the following resolution as a *Special Resolution* in terms of Clause 11 of the Scottish Amicable Life Assurance Society's Act 1976.

'That the powers of the Society set out in Regulation 3 of the Society's Regulations be amended by the insertion as a new power (26) of the language set out below and by the renumbering of the existing powers (26) and (27) accordingly:-

"to provide any guarantee or indemnity or other assurance for the benefit of any person in respect of the payment of any moneys and/or the performance or discharge of any other obligation or liability of any person. (including any subsidiary of the Society.)"

By Order of the Directors
J C Mitchell. Secretary

Principal Office
Amicable House, 150 St Vincent Street, GLASGOW G2 5NQ

NOTE

A member entitled to attend and vote at a general meeting is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend, and, on a poll, to vote instead of the member. A proxy need not be a member. Proxy forms are available on request from the Company Secretary. Completed proxy forms should be deposited at the Principal Office not later than 10.30 am on Monday 3 January 1994.

Scottish Amicable

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

CHAIR IN POLITICS

Following the election of Professor Lord Plant of Highfield to the Mastership of St. Catherine's College, Oxford, the University is seeking to appoint to this established chair a person of international standing who will play a key role in further strengthening an already well regarded Department. Applications are invited from candidates who could enhance the Department's existing strengths, in one or more of the following areas: Comparative Politics and Public Policy; International Relations; and Political Theory. The appointment is tenable from 1 September 1994 or as soon as possible thereafter.

Informal enquiries are welcome and should be addressed to the Dean, Professor A Gale, Faculty of Social Sciences, telephone (0703) 592637.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Director of Personnel Services, at the address below, telephone (0703) 593353, to whom applications, including a full curriculum vitae and details of three referees should be sent by 31 January 1994. Please quote reference P/148./Times.

Working for Equal Opportunities
Please quote appropriate reference number on envelope.

University of Southampton

The University of Sheffield

Department of Hispanic Studies

HERBERT HUGHES CHAIR OF SPANISH

Applications are invited for the above post tenable from 1 September 1994. The person appointed will have an outstanding reputation for research in one or more central areas of Hispanic Studies, and be expected to enhance the Department's pursuit of excellence in teaching and research, offering effective leadership within the University's School of Modern Languages & Linguistics.
Further particulars from the Director of Personnel Services, The University of Sheffield, Western Bank, Sheffield, S10 2TN.
tel 0742 824144.
Closing date for applications: 12 January 1994. Ref: B2200.
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EDUCATION

Changes in the A-level system have been suggested both by Lord Flowers and John Patten but they are not the ones schools and universities would necessarily like to see. Below, two experts set out their own proposals

A-level grades: let's get rid of the guesswork

More than 420,000 students will be applying for 250,000 places at university this year. Each applicant can make up to eight choices, so admissions tutors could be dealing with over three million application forms sent on to them by the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS).

Until this year there were two separate systems operating: UCCA (for the universities) and PCAS (for the polytechnics). Even with those smaller organisations problems emerged: computer failure, administrative errors, breaches of rules and so on. All schools had horror stories to tell of injustices done to their pupils.

Those in secondary education need a great deal of persuading that the huge new monolithic system of UCAS will be able to ensure that justice will be done to all the applications they handle. It is not only the marginal candidate who has reason for apprehension. Many schools are more concerned about the advice to give to their best candidates.

If they are encouraged to apply to Oxford or Cambridge, which other universities should appear among their choices? Given that under the UCAS arrangements only two offers from universities can be held, what second offer should they hold if they get one from Oxbridge? If they choose a university in great demand and with a high tariff of grades a relatively small slip in one subject at A level could leave them reliant on the clearing system.

These difficulties and injustices could be greatly reduced, along with the administrative burden, by the adoption of a post-A level results system (PARS) for university entrance. The uncertainty would be removed.

Currently admissions tutors have to work on GCSE results and A-level predictions. Both are extremely unreliable compared with grades actually achieved. As a result, offers are made to students who have little chance of achieving them.

Universities compensate for this by making more offers than they have places available. This can also result in tears. Students can achieve the points equivalent (say ABC) but fail to match the offer (say BBB).

Not that the Headmasters Conference wants to downgrade the importance of the school report. Far from it: students with a good school record are likely to contribute and gain the most from university life.

Nevertheless, all the associations of heads of institutions preparing young people for university now support PARS. They understand the problems involved, but they can also see the gains in avoiding much of the disruption of the final sixth-form year, when students are scrambling for offers instead of concentrating on their work.

There would be gains, too, for admissions tutors. Instead of having much of the academic year dominated by admissions work, they could get on with their teaching and research until August. There would then, of course, be a period of frenetic activity, probably involving more members of the university department, but the number of applications would be greatly reduced, and they would all be realistic. If an applicant knew that his grades or points were below the known entry tariff range for, say, the Bristol University English Department, he would not apply there. The result would be significantly less time spent on the admissions process by all those parties currently involved.

> 'All schools had horror stories to tell of injustices done to their pupils'

There are, of course, timetable implications and they appear to point in a different direction from Lord Flowers's proposals to reorganise the academic year into two semesters instead of three terms. A longer period would be needed between the end of A levels and the beginning of university terms. However, the extension need not be considerable. Students could be registered with UCAS and should be thinking about suitable university courses well before the examinations.

There would be considerable opposition by schools to bringing forward the examination timetable, though S-level exams might be held before the end of May. Most students need all the preparation time that is available. The Flowers proposal for a September start to the university year could be accommodated only if first-year courses were to begin half way through the first semester (say late October) and time made up in a third (summer) term. This sounds complicated but might work where modular courses were available.

The development of modular A-level and GNVQ vocational courses should also help to ease the log-jam which would occur in August. Students may be able to advise universities of their grades some time before the general announcement. The growing number of mature students' applications may also not be dependent on August results.

Some of the universities have well-developed systems of access courses and franchising by which students from certain colleges go directly to particular universities and would not affect the August UCAS pressure. Solutions to most of the problems could be found if genuine discussions involved schools, colleges and universities. It is not a business in which one sector can dictate to another.

Clearly there is a great deal of work to be done before a PARS arrangement could be implemented. The universities have considered the structure of their academic year; schools must be willing to do the same. Could a week be gained by rearranging terms to enable external exams to start earlier?

The examination boards should consider the period from first examination to publication of results to see if the time can be shortened. The professionals in the university admissions process must determine how long it would take to process applications, hold interviews and make selections.

Parents and students will have to consider whether the months of July, August, September and October could be filled with worthwhile activity and whether the delay in a grant or student loan would be likely to cause hardship. Perhaps some of the valuable "gap" experiences could be concentrated into this period. However, there is a widespread feeling that delaying entry until January would be unacceptable.

With careful planning days might be squeezed from schools, exam boards, UCAS and universities to enable the process to be completed in time for students to begin their courses before the end of October. All the benefits to be gained would clearly outweigh the disadvantage of a four-week later start to university careers.

VIVIAN ANTHONY

● *The author is Secretary of the Headmasters Conference.*

PETER MAYES



The moment of truth as students at a college in south London check their A-level results

A star we can do without

The A level has become a success story — so don't fiddle with it

VIEWPOINT



Tony Higgins

I AM currently sitting in my study preparing a few notes for when I present the prizes and certificates at two schools later this month.

I shall meet ranks of happy and proud students, many of whom are now contentedly studying at university or college having achieved the A-level grades to land their place. I shall congratulate those who passed their A-levels on their achievement. And achievement it was, especially by those who reached the pinnacle of A grades.

They should pay no heed to the recent government suggestion that a new A* grade be introduced in order to single out those who have allegedly *really* achieved from those who have merely obtained a grade A. They should resent the implication in this policy that it is all too easy to obtain good grades at A-level (or at GCSE for that matter). Only they, their parents and their teachers know how hard they worked to pass their examinations, an achievement not to be belittled. Why, as soon as we see improvement in A-level performance, must we always hear that standards must be slipping?

While I was in Singapore earlier this year, a country where the culture of status and league tables is highly developed, the report of an enquiry into the ever-rising curve of A-level grades in Singapore was published. (The Singaporeans sit English A-level board examinations.)

In agreeing that students' intelligence could not show such a marked improvement over a generation, the report suggested that the reasons for the rise in the number of A grades included better teaching techniques, the availability of more sophisticated learning aids and materials, a stronger sense of commitment shown by students, especially in view of the competition for places in higher education, and better examination technique.

So it is in the United Kingdom. Add to that the enthusiasm created within students by the style and content of GCSE syllabuses, and assessment methods which encourage students to stay on for A levels in record numbers, and you have a recipe for increased standards of performance at A level.

An A* grade is not needed. It is rare for admissions tutors to demand three grade As for entry to a course in higher education, and the added sophistication of an A* will only serve to confuse. In any event, universities and colleges are selecting students, not their qualifications.

If we must have elites, let us take comfort from the fact that the elite of A-level achievers is broadening. I know that sounds like a contradiction in terms, but to single out a small proportion of those who have slogged away to reach the pinnacle of school-leaving academic achievement is an insult to all those who have achieved.

If the Government believes that A levels are the "gold standard" (and many would quarrel with that) they should leave them alone. Both policies cannot be right.

● *The author is Joint Chief Executive of the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service.*

Tolerance on the agenda

Children in Northern Ireland learn religious prejudice at an early age. But change is under way

Division starts early for the inhabitants of Northern Ireland — at about the age of five when, according to the religious beliefs of their parents, they are sent to schools where pupils are drawn almost exclusively from one religious background.

Once segregated, the Northern Irish child will learn little of the other culture. Meetings between school-age Protestants and Roman Catholics are rare among those of a working-class background. At school, it is not only the other children who will be drawn almost wholly from the child's group. So will the teachers. In the province, teachers are trained in either Catholic or Protestant training colleges.

Against this background, Lagan College, the first "integrated" school, was founded in Belfast in 1981. This school, and the 20 integrated ones that have opened since, are open to children regardless of belief. Now, under the auspices of the Northern Ireland Council for Integrated Education (Nicie), 17 primaries and four secondaries offer an alternative to the traditional two sectors.

Nicie's main job is to assist in the setting-up of new integrated schools. Either a school is started from scratch, by a cross-community group of parents, or an existing school is converted to an integrated school if that is the choice of the board of governors and a majority of parents. Once established, a school needs ministerial approval to gain state funding.

Fiona Stephen, the chief executive of Nicie, is optimistic about the future of integrated schools, despite the fact that only 1 per cent of children in Northern Ireland are attending one at present. She says: "There is a small but growing number of people who are seeking the secularisation of education here."

Despite this, a huge majority in Northern Ireland bitterly oppose integrated education. "Northern Ireland has a very high church-going population," Ms Stephen says. "There is a strong feeling, in many quarters, against what we are doing."



Protestant and Catholic children study together at Lagan

Religion colours every aspect of life in Ulster. Few people would vote for a candidate in an election who did not hold openly Christian viewpoints. Attitudes to divorce, abortion and women's rights often seem to be frozen in the 1950s, and few people would be happy with a lack of Christian worship in their child's education.

To counter these fears, Nicie does not have a policy of secular education. Schools must be Christian in character, although of course non-denominational. As the law dictates, there is formal worship, although children can, and do, opt out of this. The ethos of the organisation states that "each child is nurtured in the values of their own ethnic, religious and cultural background in such a way that they have at the same time a respect for the values of other pupils".

The word "respect" features a lot in the ethos of the integrated schools. The atmosphere is strikingly different from that in the "traditional" sector. Children are treated like adults, and in one school are on first-name terms with their teachers. Sectarianism, from name-calling to physical abuse, is not tolerated and the schools also try to foster anti-racist and anti-sexist attitudes in their charges, hardly shocking in an English comprehensive, but pretty mould-breaking in the province.

From some quarters, opposition to the project has been loud. Nothing unites the two sides in Northern Ireland like a dose of what may be considered creeping secularism — sermons have been preached from many a pulpit about the evils of integrated education.

It is understandable that the Catholic church has its reservations. Schooling was, for many years after partition in 1921, one of the few areas over which the Catholic church maintained any control. In fact, plans were made for the complete secularisation of Northern Irish schools in the Londonderry Act of 1926. But it was fiercely resisted and came to nothing.

As the minority denomination in the province, the Catholic church has seen as part of its job the protection of the cultural tradition of its adherents. What better way of doing this than to retain a voice in their schooling?

Opposition from the multitude of Protestant churches is just as strong, possibly even stronger, especially in the growing evangelical wing. The Protestants' objections are more on pure religious grounds than on worries about cultural dilution. There also is a fair amount of purely sectarian bigotry behind many of those speaking out against integrated schools.

The integrated education experiment may nevertheless take off in the next few years. There will be problems, a prime one being the locating of such schools. Housing, as well as education, is segregated on religious lines. Many working-class people live in areas that are either 90 per cent Catholic or 90 per cent Protestant.

Nicie believes that a policy of integration by consent will lead to more understanding between the communities. What is sad is that there is so little support for the scheme from the politicians of Northern Ireland.

MICHAEL HANLON

Tech prep forges ahead

In Jefferson County, Kentucky, vocational training starts young and is geared to local business needs

Few schools can boast, among their technical equipment, a fire engine and an ambulance. It's not that the arson or accident rate at Fairdale High School Magnet Career Academy, in Louisville, Kentucky, is particularly high: students at the academy are training for jobs in the fire and ambulance services.

So advanced, in fact, is the Fairdale technology that the local police force uses the academy's "defensive driving disaster response laboratory" to train its officers to deal with emergencies.

Fairdale also offers training in law enforcement, and the secret service. Over at the Central High School Magnet Career Academy they concentrate on entrepreneurship, business management, government services and medicine — to include nursing, dentistry, veterinary science and pharmacy.

Clinical internships and work experience mean that the students can serve "youth apprenticeships" — as they can in the other career academies within the Jefferson County public school district — while still at school.

These "tech prep" courses are offered as an alternative to traditional "college prep" courses. Students are prepared for a highly skilled technical occupation and the programme will allow either direct entry into the workplace as a qualified technician or an opportunity to continue on into further or higher education.

Tech prep is a four-year sequence of study, begining at 14 and followed by two years of post-secondary occupational education. Successful students will also gain a "skill certificate" which will be a credential recognised by industry.

Jefferson County Public Schools claim to be leading the way towards the introduction of the new American school. The programme begins in the elementary school — where career awareness is part of the curriculum — and goes right through to adult education, where retraining and basic skills are taught.

At 14, students are exposed to a broad range of career assessment and exploration opportunities, to include career interests, learning styles, aptitude, work attitude and work temperament. Students not on tech prep will take fairly traditional routes into higher education.

At Shawnee High School Career Magnet students are encouraged to pass their pilot's licence by the time they graduate, at no cost to themselves or the school. It is no longer the preserve of the rich: many of the students attending career magnet programmes come from deprived areas and low-income families. Steps are taken to ensure that their education is not wasted.

Sheena Binford is 18, bright and usually achieved good grades. However, she was identified as being "at risk" — her self-esteem was low — and was matched with a volunteer mentor: Jeannie Heatherly, who is an administrator with the school district. Her task was to take an interest, be a friend and to help Sheena succeed.

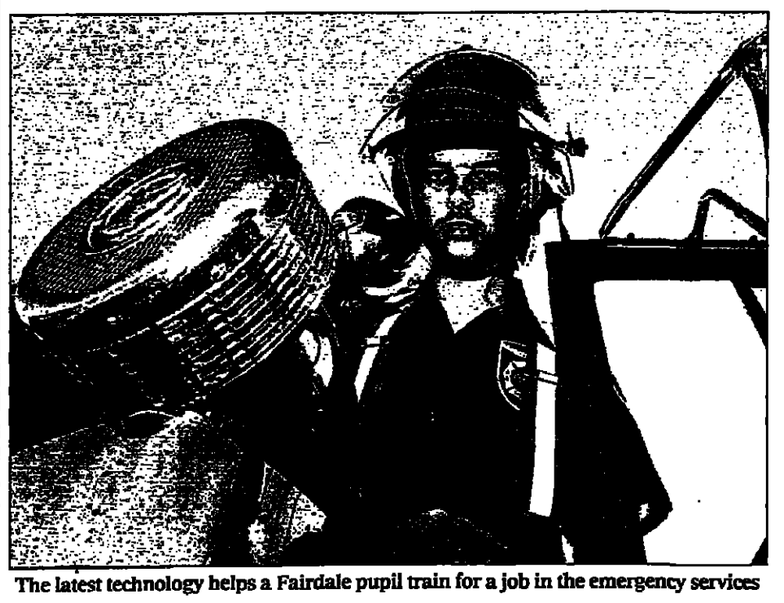
The relationship is working. Sheena has now graduated from high school and is at college. She was the first African American on the magnet programme to fly solo. She is only 11 flying hours away from a private pilot's licence, and plans to be a commercial pilot or to join the military.

There are 14 career magnet academies, created within existing schools. Each may involve only about 25 per cent of the students and each academy has one or more related career paths which can be followed and which will reflect the kind of businesses operating in the area.

Local industries have been involved from the very beginning and have played a central role in designing each course. "No longer are vocational studies taught in the annexe at the back of the school", says Dr Bernard Minnis, director of career/workforce education. "They are at the forefront of this initiative and have benefited from major financial investment in buildings, high-tech equipment and staff development". Combining the technical aspects of these courses with related academic areas of study is also regarded as crucial.

GEORGE TURNBULL

● *The author is editor of* Business Matters, *published by The Associated Examining Board.*



The latest technology helps a Fairdale pupil train for a job in the emergency services

Capitalisation, week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin today. Dealings end December 31. §Contango day January 4. Settlement day January 10. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
6,109.30	Abbey Ntl	466	+14	11.8	3.2	18.0
1,430.10	Allied Irish	279	-3	...	3.7	14.2
2,930.30	Aus New Z	224†	+6½	...	3.9	∞
10,732.30	Bankamerica	3018½	+43½	...	...	...
1,298.40	Bk of Ireland	276	-1	...	4.5	20.4
27.70	Bk Leumi UK	350	...	17.0	6.1	...
2,652.90	Bank Scotland	228½	+15½	4.6	2.6	31.0
9,904.30	Barclays	611	-2	...	2.6	...
6.84	Benchmark	4½	...	...	...	5.0
6.70	Carlisle	22	...	...	...	...
143.90	Cater Allen	597	+2	28.0	5.9	...
166.10	Cattles	150	+8	...	3.8	20.0
3,531.70	Chase Manh	2262½	-15½	...	...	...
8,750.40	Citicorp	2393½	...	...	...	...
218.70	Close Bros	485	+2	...	2.8	17.6
4,574.50	Commerzbk	£154	+6½	...	2.6	...
16,478.80	Deutsche Bk	£346	+6½	...	1.8	...
96.50	First Nat Fin	59	-8	...	1.1	...
40,566.90	Fuji Bank Y	1401	...	...	0.4	...
177.50	Gerrard Nat	454	-4	21.5	5.9	12.1
6,711.70	HSBC	817½	-6½	20.0	3.1	19.6
14,151.00	HSBC HK	829	+61	20.0	3.0	19.8
650.10	Hambros	370	-14	14.3	4.8	17.1
22.00	Joseph (L)	426	...	16.7	5.0	...
21.20	King Shaxson	134	-7	9.0	8.7	...
720.50	Kleinwort Ben	545	+11	16.7	3.8	18.9
7,973.60	Lloyds	621	-5	19.1	3.8	17.8
56.80	Lon Scot Bk	94	-1	2.9	3.9	18.6
7,301.60	Nat Aust Bk	548	+10	...	3.9	∞
9,866.30	Nat West	594	-2	17.8	3.7	36.1
999.90	Provident	449	+11	12.4	3.5	19.4
30.40	Rea Bros	52	+2	0.5	1.3	55.3
3,557.10	Ryl Bk Scot	448	+18	...	3.1	23.5
1,275.60	Schroders	1263	+55	...	1.2	25.2
2,886.20	Stand Chart	1212	+59	20.5	2.1	...
1,688.70	TSB	243	+9½	6.4	3.3	...
31.70	Union Disc	167	-1	...	...	...
1,953.00	Warburg SG	900	+13	...	2.7	13.2
4,518.40	Wells Fargo	8156½	+193½	...	2.5	...
3,559.00	Westpac	203	+5	...	2.5	∞
27.00	Wintrust	318	-2	9.3	3.7	28.4

BREWERIES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
5,522.40	Allied-Lyons	624	+13	...	4.3	17.1
4,713.20	Bass	543	+12	...	4.7	14.3
334.10	Boddington	277	-1	7.5	3.4	16.1
219.40	Bulmer (HP)	418	-15	...	3.0	18.2
36.40	Burtonwd Brw	175	-3	4.7	3.4	14.6
28.00	Eldridge P 'A'	144	+19	...	3.1	∞
1,995.70	Fosters Brewing	62	-3	...	4.2	∞
84.20	Fullr Sm 'A'	415	...	7.5	2.3	17.7
9,406.90	Grand Met	454	+19½	...	3.6	17.3
853.60	Greenalls Grp	409	+1	...	3.8	13.8
240.30	Greene King	568	-2	...	2.7	16.1
9,357.30	Guinness	466	-5	...	3.3	17.4
59.00	Hardy Hansn	236	-1	7.8	4.1	13.1
3.43	Heavitree	135	+20	3.0	2.8	32.2
419.00	Highland Distl	331†	-3	...	2.5	16.5
93.80	Hok J	3125	...	42.0	1.7	20.4
4.56	Hoskins Brew	78#	+3	...	...	56.2
383.80	Invrgordn Dist	301	...	...	2.0	17.2
151.40	Macallan-Glen	130	...	4.3	4.2	29.2
52.40	Macdn Martn 'A'	385†	-8	...	2.9	18.4
124.00	Mansfield	194	-2	...	2.6	13.8
255.50	Mrstn Thmp	282†	-2	...	2.5	17.0
126.40	Matthew Clark	557	+4	...	4.0	18.6
26.70	Mrrydwn W	220	-3	7.0	4.0	17.3
115.10	Morland	543†	+18	9.7	2.2	∞
4.15	Paramount	8½	...	...	2.1	∞
29.70	Regent Inns	203	+3	...	2.8	20.6
6,907.50	SA Breweries	1200	+8	...	2.2	20.3
2,872.60	Scot & New	542	+4	...	4.0	16.4
179.30	Taunton Cider	164	-21	6.2	4.8	12.6
380.60	Vaux Group	275	+5	9.3	4.3	19.0
102.80	Wetherspoon JD	328	-6	...	2.1	25.5
2,958.80	Whitbread 'A'	569†	+8	...	4.0	13.7
351.90	Wolvrhmptn D	534	+2	12.6	3.0	∞
14.10	Young 'A'	485†	...	14.7	3.8	20.1

BUILDING, ROADS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
54.20	Abbey	140	...	...	1.7	23.0
13.00	Albrighton	18	-1	...	0.7	...
38.60	Allen	145	-2	...	4.4	32.5
236.30	Amec	117	-4	3.0	3.2	21.6
2.48	Anglia Sec	7½	...	...	...	...
96.90	Ashtead	323	+3	...	1.8	34.2
350.30	Attwoods	124†	-3	...	5.0	...
1,557.80	BPB Ind	313†	+13	...	3.0	37.4
36.90	Baggeridge Brk	93	+3	3.1	4.2	31.3
2.72	Bailey (Ben) Con	26	...	0.6	2.9	...
15.40	Barcom	83	...	1.2	1.9	15.1
232.50	Bardon	42	-2	3.0	6.0	20.7
384.90	Barratt Devs	213	+20	4.0	2.3	∞
223.00	Bellway	457†	+5	12.0	3.3	∞
18.00	Bellwinch	41	+2	...	...	...
352.80	Berkeley Gp	460	+10	...	1.6	28.8
16.20	Bett Bros	108†	-2	...	2.3	13.9
11.50	Blockleys	45	-2	1.0	2.8	49.7
2,387.40	Blue Circle	345	+8	...	4.1	...
71.00	Boot (Henry)	273	...	6.0	2.7	15.3
26.20	Breedon PLC	92	...	4.6	6.2	22.6
22.90	Br Dredging	130	...	5.2	5.0	28.9
19.10	Brit Fittings	80	-1	1.7	2.7	...
430.90	Bryant	156	+3	...	3.8	31.5
43.30	CALA	123	+5	...	2.3	...
1,185.10	CRH	340	+5	...	2.5	18.7
1.80	Cakebread Rby	30	...	...	...	...
142.40	Costain	27½	+½	...	...	...
109.90	Countryside	144	-5	...	3.6	∞
74.20	Crest Nicholson	97	-2	0.0	...	...
18.20	Cussins	102	...	...	1.2	...
2.63	Dunton	5½	+½	...	...	...
10.00	Edmond Hldgs	19	...	0.3	2.0	...
54.40	Epwin	276	-2	7.0	3.2	23.4
26.50	Erith	56	...	0.3	0.8	...
43.60	Eve Group	458	-45	...	2.8	17.2
6.47	Explaura	4½	...	...	...	...
9.20	Freeman Gp	133	+2	...	4.7	21.3
33.70	Galliford	38	...	...	3.3	...
1.37	Gibbs & Dandy	79	-1	...	3.2	...
91.90	Gleeson (MJ)	910†	-5	...	1.8	15.8
297.20	Hewden-Stuart	156	...	...	2.6	27.8
3.97	Heweston	46	...	...	3.4	33.6
297.70	Heywd Wlm	398	+16	13.0	4.3	...
48.40	Higgs & Hill	110	...	2.5	2.8	...
11.50	How Gp	28	...	...	5.0	...
5.38	Howard Hldgs	21	...	0.5	3.0	...
177.70	Ibstock Johnsen	71	+3	1.0	1.8	...
9.15	Jarvis	13½	...	...	...	...
138.90	Laing (J)	303	-3	9.0	3.7	12.1
48.40	-do- 6.4% Cv Pf	120½	...	...	6.6	...
9.98	Ln Clydeside	110	...	4.5	5.1	41.4
12.90	Lovell (YJ)	15½	-½	...	...	7.0
118.90	Manders	318	+5	9.3	3.7	19.5
502.90	Marley	177	+3	4.2	3.0	51.9
145.90	Marshalls	120	-3	...	4.2	...
46.90	Maunders (J)	190	...	...	3.4	18.3
123.30	McAlpine (A)	213	+9	6.5	3.8	36.9
28.10	McCarthy & S	40	-1	0.5	1.6	...
627.70	Meyer Int	503†	+27	...	2.5	50.4
135.50	Mowlem (J)	125	+5	4.0	4.0	...
27.10	NSM	158	+3	...	...	...
9.01	Needler	48	...	...	3.7	22.4
189.50	Newman Tnks	157	...	...	5.3	21.0
273.00	Persimmon	278	-1	8.6	3.9	28.4
2.34	Phoenix Timber	10	...	...	...	...
16.10	Pochins	1580	...	29.0	2.4	21.8
127.90	Prowting	165	+12	3.4	2.6	...
5.05	Quiligotti	1½	...	...	...	...
1,776.90	RMC Gp	902	+8	...	2.8	33.9
154.00	Raine Ind	82	-1	...	4.6	19.4
2.60	Ramus	21	...	...	...	...
3,070.20	Redland	595	+22	25.0	5.3	34.6
12.00	Roskel	80	...	4.3	6.7	11.8
933.40	Rugby Group	319	+14	6.4	2.5	34.4
10.20	Sfrid-Rve	65	...	...	0.5	...
33.50	Sharpe & Fisher	162	...	...	3.1	28.2
165.00	Sheffield Insl	253	+16	...	2.7	62.1
18.40	Sherif Hldgs	175	...	...	1.6	26.1
3.19	Shorco	93	...	...	7.0	21.1
22.40	Smart (J)	222	...	...	4.8	16.7
6.72	Starmin	2	...	...	...	...
1,522.00	Tarmac	166	+10	5.5	4.1	...
37.70	Tay Homes	172	...	...	4.4	20.4
564.20	Taylor Woodrw	135	+12	1.0	0.9	...
210.60	Tilbury Dougls	623	+20	33.0	6.6	20.3
3.46	Torex Hire	34	...	...	1.5	...
300.20	Travis Perkins	294	+5	8.0	3.4	51.8
12.10	Try Group	28	...	1.0	4.5	7.0
2.30	Tudor	21	...	...	1.5	...
39.20	Vibroplant	86†	...	2.5	3.6	30.0
24.20	Ward Hldgs	46	+11	...	...	...
0.83	Waterhouse	33	-2	...	...	...
89.40	Watts Blake	430	+3	...	3.5	18.5
6.24	Wescol	30	...	...	...	...
118.40	Westbury	178	-1	5.0	3.5	27.8
3.77	West Scaffold	7	...	...	...	...
15.60	Wiggins	3½	...	...	...	...
421.70	Wilson Bowdn	453	+17	...	2.4	31.9
36.80	Wilson (C)	183	-4	3.9	2.7	31.7
641.90	Wimpey G	178	-5	...	3.7	...
2.51	YRM	19	...	0.5	3.3	...

BUSINESS SERVICES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
802.60	ADT	573	-23	...	...	...
10.70	Adam & Harvey	250	+2	13.0	6.5	4.6
5.41	Air London	61	...	...	7.2	10.0
3.10	African Lakes	44	...	2.0	5.7	...
152.20	Auto Sec	130	-9	...	5.0	23.3
1,279.90	BET Ord	157	+1½	...	2.1	5.5
27.50	BNB Res	114	...	4.9	5.4	...
61.30	BPP	233	+3	8.3	4.5	12.0
19.80	Barbour Index	240	...	8.0	4.2	16.4
20.00	Boustead	23†	-2	0.7	3.8	...
54.70	Brit Data Mgt	225	-5	4.7	2.6	16.4
3.51	Broadcastle	22	...	...	1.4	17.5
6.90	Brooks Service	58	-6	...	1.1	...
51.00	CRT Gp	96	+4	...	3.8	16.9
90.50	Capita Group	191	+1	...	1.5	29.8
32.40	Caskel Plc	40½	-1½	...	2.8	15.4
20.90	Chiltern Capital	22½	...	...	...	...
15.20	Christie	65	-10	...	...	...
983.80	Chubb Sec	352	-26	...	1.9	21.7
35.00	Comace	109	...	...	1.7	23.5
13.50	Corp Services	36	...	...	...	...
20.30	Coutts Cnslg	85	-2	...	5.0	...
21.70	Dart	142	+5	3.5	2.0	19.1
230.50	Davis Service	216	-2	...	4.6	16.3
9.25	EW Facts	125	+12	6.4	4.5	14.1
28.40	Gardiner	2½	...	0.4	2.0	18.4
1,057.40	Hays	262	-2	...	2.5	22.8
163.30	Hsng Robinsn	236†	+1	...	3.6	17.2
17.20	Holmes Protectn	39	...	...	...	2.4
11,117.10	Hutch Whamp	320	-47	...	1.5	26.8
538.40	ISS B DKr	2075	-25	...	1.0	14.3
277.20	Inchcape	530	-5	...	3.3	17.3
171.00	Johnson Clean	468	...	25.7	3.7	18.9
14.60	Lep	7	-1	...	...	...
30.60	Mitie Gp	271	-4	3.5	1.6	21.1
321.50	Manpower	1104	+8	...	...	...
35.30	Michael Page	59	-½	1.8	3.8	25.1
5.44	Penna	115†	...	...	8.7	4.3
1.63	Prime People	3½	...	...	...	...
38.80	Proudfoot Alex	62	-2	...	...	3.4
39.90	RCO	177	-15	14.1	4.8	12.8
8.15	REA	98	-1	2.0	2.6	...
48.60	Reed Executive	95	...	...	...	...
24.30	Reliance Sec	108	-2	...	5.2	23.4
2,067.00	Rentokil	212	+3	2.5	1.5	26.4
19.90	Rolfe & Nolan	280	-2	...	3.4	15.6
933.80	Salvesen (C)	323	-26	...	3.1	21.2
3.02	Scott Pickford	38	...	...	2.9	11.2
16.10	Select Appt	7½	...	...	...	...
146.90	Serco Gp	1263	-12	13.3	1.3	34.9
0.34	Sherwd Cmpt	104	+10	...	8.4	3.0
59.00	Sketchley	100†	-1	...	3.8	22.9
77.00	Warner Howrd	325	-5	6.6	2.6	17.0
12.50	Welpac	28	...	...	...	...
35.70	Wills Gp	25½	-½	...	2.0	17.8

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
604.20	Allied Colloids	230	-4	...	2.4	21.1
561.90	Amersham	984	+21	...	1.8	34.0
18.40	Anglo Utd	2	...	...	...	...
6,427.60	BASF DM	£112½	+1¼	...	5.9	...
403.90	BTP	301	+18	...	4.0	20.5
9,039.50	Bayer DM50	£137½	-240½	...	4.0	...
56.30	Blagden	121	-4	6.5	6.7	13.0
79.60	Brent Chems	118	+4	...	7.6	10.8
129.60	Br Bio-Tech	967	-12	...	...	...
3.15	Caird Gp	9½	...	...	2.2	15.3
41.00	Canning (W)	145	-1	7.2	6.3	16.6
1,845.20	Courtaulds	459†	-2	...	3.8	11.5
449.70	Croda	242	-2	...	2.9	19.7
17.20	Doeflex	122	...	4.6	4.7	9.4
180.30	Ellis & Everard	218	+8	...	4.0	20.8
10.60	Euro Colour	35	-½	0.8	3.1	16.8
101.70	Halstead (J)	348	+5	...	3.3	17.2
291.60	Hickson	188	+14	...	6.0	15.0
6,770.40	Hoechst	£114½	+262½	...	3.2	...
14.50	Holliday Chem	109	-3	...	...	15.6
5,494.40	ICI	721	...	...	...	...
1,324.30	Laporte	693	+17	19.9	3.6	19.1
124.60	Leigh	195	+2	...	5.1	18.6
12.60	MTM	49	+1	...	...	...
3,951.10	Norsk Hydro	1675	+6½	...	1.5	26.7
110.00	Paterson Zoch	451	...	...	3.5	15.2
93.10	-do- 'A'	408	...	...	3.9	13.7
95.90	Piysu	202	-4	...	4.3	13.2
41.30	Porvair	268	-20	3.8	1.8	28.7
26.40	Sutcliffe Speak	47	...	...	...	...
105.00	Wardle Storeys	425	+10	...	5.1	10.6
40.60	Wintlhme R	548	...	17.0	3.9	18.7
180.50	Yorks Chem	395	...	...	2.5	21.2
257.40	Yule Catto	259	-3	...	2.9	16.1
7,304.90	Zeneca	773	-23	...	4.4	45.7

DRAPERY, STORES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
37.30	Alexon	65	+2	...	5.8	...
72.10	Amber Day	62	+3	1.3	2.7	∞
1,088.10	Argos Plc	366	-5	...	2.4	31.2
15.50	Ashley Group	11	-1	...	2.1	...
109.70	Ashley (Laura)	85	-3	0.1	0.1	...
247.40	Asprey	310	-3	5.2	2.1	21.4
45.90	Austin Reed	150	-4	...	2.1	...
68.70	Beattie (J) 'A'	148	...	...	5.2	14.0
46.10	Benalls	110	+1	1.9	2.2	...
143.50	Beaverware	140	-8	...	1.9	16.8
12.10	Blacks Leis	38	-4	2.2	7.6	...
307.80	Body Shop	212½	-½	...	1.0	27.4
60.90	Brown & Jacksn	9½	-1½	...	1.1	4.0
308.80	Brown (N)	423	-1	...	2.2	24.8
891.10	Burton	62½	-3½	2.0	4.0	∞
32.40	Cantors	195	+14	...	2.6	∞
36.10	Church	334	...	12.5	4.7	29.7
26.00	Clinton Cards	153	-2	4.3	3.6	18.5
1,805.00	Coats Viyella	269	+1	...	3.5	37.2
16.83	Colourvision	83	...	5.6	8.4	14.9
30.10	Cray Casuals	157	...	...	3.3	14.6
216.80	Courts Furnish	685	-30	5.6	0.8	11.1
2.16	Crown Eyes	135	+2	...	7.1	9.0
1,489.10	Dairy Farm Intl	118	+2	...	3.1	17.3
114.70	Dewhirst (IJ)	91	-½	0.8	1.1	29.2
1,117.80	Dixons Grp	283	+1	...	2.7	...
4.87	ERA Gp	8½	-1½	...	...	69.7
6.36	Elys (Wimbldn)	530	...	16.0	3.8	18.2
17.20	Essex Furn	150	-1	...	2.9	24.0
150.20	Etam	230†	...	7.0	3.8	21.1
441.00	Fine Art Dev	554	-15	13.0	3.0	17.9
2.68	Fired Earth Tiles	47	...	...	...	...
14.70	Forminster	623	+3	14.0	3.8	11.3
18.60	French Conn	116	-4	...	...	...
34.50	Gent SR	66	-4	...	4.0	20.5
16.70	Goldsmiths Gp	76	-2	0.3	0.5	...
5,834.80	GUS	580	-7½	...	2.5	17.8
3.44	Hampden Grp	23	...	...	5.4	11.4
46.10	Harstone	44	+3	...	...	...
36.80	Helene Plc	29½	+1½	2.0	8.5	13.9
4.12	Heritage	88	+13	...	...	...
5.36	Honeysuckle	66	-1	...	4.3	∞
14.60	Jacques Vert	154	-2	...	3.4	11.8
4,887.80	Kingfisher	735	+5	...	2.4	25.3
25.30	Leslie Wise Gp	73	...	4.0	6.8	15.0
90.50	Liberty	545	...	7.2	1.7	64.2
39.40	Lloyds Chem	317	+2½	...	2.9	11.1
855.70	MFI	147	+1	...	3.2	30.9
12,386.80	Marks Spencer	447½	-7½	...	2.3	22.9
314.70	Menzies (John)	566	+6	...	2.4	16.0
38.70	Moss Bros	232	+3	5.5	3.0	27.2
760.10	Next	206	...	3.5	2.1	24.0
9.61	Oliver (G)	38	-1	...	...	...
173.00	Oriflame Intl	324	+22	...	3.8	16.7
49.60	Pentos	34½	-1	0.8	2.9	7.2
86.50	QS Hldgs	220	-5	5.1	2.9	15.7
54.60	Rhino Grp	61	+1	...	...	...
33.50	Rosebys	170	...	...	3.6	20.4
164.10	Sherwood Gp	147	+1	...	2.2	13.2
1,903.60	Sears	126	-1	...	3.5	...
46.20	Signet Group	15½	-6½	...	...	...
1,376.60	Smith WH 'A'	505	+12	...	3.5	16.5
2.64	Specialeyes	17	-1	...	...	...
958.60	Storehouse	231	+9	...	2.7	22.6
95.20	T & S Stores	149	-1	6.0	5.0	11.1
75.90	Tie Rack	141	+5	1.0	0.9	24.1
122.50	Time Products	232†	...	7.7	4.2	20.0
7.55	Usher (Frank)	108	...	...	6.9	9.3
2,488.40	Vendome	356	+18	...	2.2	16.6
19.80	Vivat	36	...	1.0	3.5	11.1
3.29	Wensum	44	...	...	5.3	...
396.90	Wickes	106	-11	...	0.2	48.2
4.39	Wld of Leather	54	...	...	...	...
66.30	Wyevale	173	+3	...	3.1	22.9
3.86	Xtra-vision	2½	...	...	...	...

ELECTRICALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
271.10	ACT Group	147	-5	...	4.3	14.8
38.50	Acal	266	-9	...	3.1	18.4
58.40	Acorn Comp	88	-3	...	...	44.6
50.80	Admiral	470	...	5.7	1.5	19.9
75.50	Alba	163	...	...	3.7	20.3
10.70	Alphameric	39½	...	...	...	...
229.60	Amstrad	39½	-3	0.5	1.6	∞
15.80	App Holo	76	+2	...	...	...
21.30	Arlen	35	-2	...	...	...
220.00	Astec	71	-3½	...	0.4	...
23.10	Beales Hunter	235	+1	...	5.0	14.5
2.65	Bennett & Fount	2½	...	...	...	...
1,440.10	BICC	409	+5	19.2	5.9	...
137.20	Blick	450	+2	10.2	2.9	∞
340.80	Borland	1200	...	...	...	...
624.60	Bowthorpe	374	+6	6.4	2.2	24.4
28,141.90	BT	469½	-2	...	4.3	17.9
2,629.10	BT P/P	215½	-4	...	9.6	9.9
3.97	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	15½	-1½	0.1	0.8	...
20.20	Burnfield	59	+6	5.7	12.2	9.3
10,844.50	Cable Wireless	497	+7	...	1.9	25.8
54.20	Chloride	22½	-2	...	...	...
47.30	CML Micro	270	...	...	2.2	19.6
15.00	Comptr People	108	...	...	...	...
332.80	Cray Elect	151	...	...	1.2	15.5
48.80	Critchley	423	...	...	1.4	24.2
703.00	Delta	475	-10	...	3.7	19.8
19.70	Denmans El	443	+13	...	1.7	18.9
107.50	Domino	420	-5	7.4	1.2	14.3
94.60	Dowding Mills	64½	...	...	4.8	27.6
77.40	Druck	1210	+7	10.0	1.0	25.8
1,014.30	Electrocomps	485	+3	...	2.3	19.7
48.30	El Data Prc	555	-108	5.5	1.2	∞
35.70	Electron House	135	...	2.6	2.4	29.6
20.20	Emess	19	-½	0.1	0.7	...
290.10	Eurotherm	649	+18	8.5	1.6	29.5
825.30	FKI	186†	+4½	...	2.2	27.2
729.00	Farnell Elec	544	...	...	1.5	28.8
5.92	Feedback	70	-7	...	3.6	9.1
9.36	Ferranti	1#	...	...	...	...
40.30	First Tech	271	-5	...	0.5	22.6
19.00	Forward Gp	235†	-10	...	2.1	21.2
4.93	Forward Tech	14½	...	...	...	...
8,694.10	GEC	318	-5½	10.4	4.1	15.7
94.00	Graseby	148	-7	...	9.2	31.1
27.60	Graystone	10½	...	...	...	...
1.53	Hildebrand	41	-1	...	1.5	...
6.46	INSTEM	135	...	...	2.9	9.7
59.80	Ind Control	150	...	...	3.3	15.1
70.60	Jones Stroud	388	...	...	2.8	15.6
38.10	Kalamazoo	100	...	2.7	3.4	23.0
3.57	Kembrey	12½	...	0.1	1.6	...
122.20	Kenwood App	333	+6	...	3.0	18.3
27.90	Kewill Sys	234	...	...	...	...
15.30	Kode	165	...	6.0	4.5	19.6
3.06	Laser-Scan	19	...	...	...	...
28.70	LBMS	160	-3	...	0.6	22.6
16.00	Lec Refrig	265	...	9.0	4.2	...
227.80	Life Sciences	134	+2	3.7	3.5	14.5
160.50	Logica	261	-8	...	1.9	30.1
4.34	LPA Ind	52	...	...	8.5	14.7
121.40	MR Data Mngmt	219	+4	...	3.0	20.6
142.00	Macro 4	625	-33	...	3.6	19.0
114.70	Memvier-Swa	235	...	...	2.0	20.8
145.30	Micro Focus	1023	-10	...	...	9.4
58.30	Microgen	148	+2	7.2	6.1	10.1
20.60	Microvitec	31½	-1	...	...	...
202.50	Misys	522	-2	...	1.7	19.1
324.00	Mitel	410	-11	...	...	...
15.20	MMT Comp	143†	-2	...	3.5	19.5
7.26	Molynx	38½	-13	1.3	...	...
44.00	MTL Inst	250	...	...	1.9	18.8
21.10	Mulitone Elect	140†	...	3.5	3.1	25.4
22.40	Murray Enter	235	+2	...	2.1	...
11,504.70	NYNEX	2787½	-25	...	...	...
32.90	Neotronics	128	-2	2.6	2.5	16.5
2.60	Newmark (L)	56	...	...	...	...
20.40	Norbain	269	...	...	0.7	20.7
9.96	Northamber	56	-1	0.6	1.3	...
9.65	Ocestrics	7	-1½	...	...	...
143.40	Oxford Inst	295	-4	4.6	2.0	20.2
16.00	P-E Internl	73	...	...	...	...
28.30	P & P	51	-10	1.5	3.7	27.1
92.40	Peek	79	-2	3.4	5.4	20.6
13.80	Pegasus	209	-5	...	3.8	53.6
12.80	Philips Fn 4%	9750	...	...	5.9	...
4,434.20	-do- Lmp nv	1387½	+50	...	...	...
112.10	Psionelink	316	+29	...	...	...
26.00	Pifco	280	+6	...	1.8	23.5
18.60	-do- 'A' Voting	270	+6	...	1.9	22.6
3.39	Plasmec	73	...	...	5.1	6.2
26.30	Pressac	103	-2	...	3.1	21.8
37.00	Psion	168	-5	...	1.9	44.6
464.60	Racal Elect	168	+6	4.2	3.3	9.9
7.38	Radamec	40	-1	...	4.7	8.6
7.37	Radius	27	...	2.2	10.4	9.3
5.04	Real Time	72	-1	...	5.2	14.8
6.50	Riva	25	-1	...	...	31.7
98.20	Sage Gp	479	+40	9.9	2.6	∞
27.60	Sanderson Elec	310	+10	9.9	4.1	13.0
29.00	Scantronic	76	+1	3.1	5.3	20.6
59.40	Scholes Grp	155	-2	...	4.0	20.1
279.40	Sema Gp	307	-11	2.9	1.2	24.9
13.40	Silvermines	41	...	...	2.9	...
5.40	Soundtracks	54	+3	...	5.3	18.2
3,057.30	TDK	2325	+68½	...	1.4	26.3
1.03	TDS Circus	11½	...	...	...	...
130.30	Telemetrix	144	-4	0.8	0.7	23.7
4,237.30	THORN EMI	997	+24	...	4.0	22.9
16.90	Thorpe FW	131	-2	...	2.5	15.3
3.61	Total Systems	35	-3	1.5	5.4	6.2
91.20	Tunstall	370	+12	7.0	1.5	∞
175.50	Unitech	257	+3	...	3.0	60.9
20.90	Verity	10½	+1½	...	...	...
29.00	Vistec	24½	-½	...	1.9	14.0
5,714.10	Vodafone	568†	+11	...	1.7	24.7
112.90	Volex	436	+12	18.1	5.4	17.2
3.01	Western Selectn	20	+1	0.2	1.6	∞
37.10	Wholesale Ftgs	261	+1	11.7	5.6	27.7

ELECTRICITY

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1,409.70	East Midlands	646	+43	...	4.0	11.3
1,773.80	Eastern Elect	656	+30	...	3.9	12.4
1,664.40	Hydro-Elect	434	+19	...	3.4	15.1
1,404.60	London Elect	644	+30	...	3.8	14.3
858.90	Manweb	721	+51	...	3.6	10.4
1,445.50	Midlands Elec	689	+44	...	3.9	10.8
5,687.10	National Powr	445	+27	...	3.1	11.0
856.80	Northern Elec	696	+41	...	3.9	10.0
411.50	Nthn Ireland	250	+39	...	5.1	9.3
1,221.00	Norweb	702	+32	30.8	3.7	10.8
3,904.30	PowerGen	498	+30½	...	2.8	13.1
3,602.30	Scottish Power	442	+24	...	3.3	16.3
909.10	Seeboard	713	+37	...	3.6	9.2
725.40	Sth Wales	714	+17	...	4.1	10.8
814.90	Sth Western	662	+27	...	3.8	10.5
1,832.00	Southern Elec	670	+36	...	3.6	12.4
1,370.90	Yorkshire Elec	661	-15	...	3.9	12.5

FINANCE, LAND

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
33.30	Aitken Hume	55	...	1.0	2.3	11.7
23.90	BWD	128	...	...	3.3	20.0
29.90	Baltic Plc	99	-2	...	1.3	...
520.20	Caledonia	626†	+3	...	3.1	23.3
45.60	Camellia	1825	-21½	...	2.1	6.8
68.00	Candover	305	+1	10.4	4.3	21.6
90.50	Flemech	280	+6	...	0.2	...
235.40	Govett	335	+3	...	4.9	9.8
47.80	Ivory Sime	168	...	...	4.9	15.5
3.59	LIT	6½	+½	...	...	...
234.03	Lon Forfaiting	234	-1	8.7	4.6	17.0
15.40	Manakin	76	...	5.0	8.2	∞
9.82	Nat Home Loan	9½	+½	...	...	...
18.50	Newmarket	52	...	...	...	...
59.50	Rathbone Brs	304	-1	6.5	2.7	18.5
51.40	Rutland Tst	20	+½	...	5.0	11.9
33.50	S & U	313	+4	10.2	4.1	11.6
152.00	Singer & Fried	79	...	...	4.7	...
136.00	Sotheby's	993	-12	...	3.4	...
317.50	SIP Capital	116	+3	3.0	3.2	47.8

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
10,226.40	Amer Express	2125	-40½	...	...	...
208.30	Henderson Ad	973†	...	...	5.4	22.4
422.40	Invesco	171	...	...	2.2	...
2,588.50	Jardine Strat	274	-23	...	2.9	11.5
821.00	MAI	253	+14	...	3.4	16.0
1,286.20	MAM	685	+2	16.0	2.9	17.1
711.90	M & G	948	-6	...	2.8	25.2
209.00	Smith New Crt	402	-21	...	2.2	3.9
39.50	Trio Hldgs	53	+4	...	7.1	...

FOODS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
2,420.10	AB Food	539	+1	...	3.5	11.0
1,514.70	ASDA Group	52½	+2	1.6	3.8	12.5
105.30	Acatos & Hutch	319	+3	7.6	3.0	18.4
387.30	Albert Fisher	64	...	3.7	7.3	∞
2,928.40	Argyll	261	+6	...	5.4	9.3
18.40	Banks (S C)	218	-2	9.0	5.2	9.7
58.40	Barr (AG)	309	+4	6.5	2.6	15.6
11.30	Bensons Crsp	62	...	...	5.7	13.9
105.30	Berisford Intl	106	-1	...	...	...
803.10	Booker	405	+11	...	6.7	35.1
28.90	Borthwick	50	...	...	3.0	61.5
240.30	Brake Bros	474	...	6.3	1.7	19.7
66.70	Budgen	41	-1	...	3.0	12.5
4,033.80	Cadbury-Schw	489	+22	...	3.5	17.3
9.80	Carrs Milling	144	+15	4.3	3.8	∞
19.30	Creswick	143	+2	...	7.1	10.5
3.40	Cullens	13	...	0.5	4.8	37.3
14.70	Dalepak	127	-9	6.0	5.9	10.0
1,074.40	Dalgety	470	-14	...	5.5	13.4
4.16	Daniels S	50	...	...	0.6	...
340.20	Devro	252	...	...	2.7	24.0
25.40	Everest	101	...	...	4.6	18.3
84.60	Farepak	374	+3	5.7	1.9	23.0
1.81	Farringford	7	...	...	...	...
72.80	Finlay (James)	73	...	...	7.1	24.2
280.50	Fyffes	100	...	...	1.5	18.0
241.20	Geest	336	-27	8.1	3.0	15.1
16.90	Global	14	...	...	4.5	21.6
19.40	Grand Central	49	...	0.8	2.0	...
354.70	Hazlewood Fds	153	-1	...	5.4	8.5
1,060.10	Hillsdown	154	+5	8.8	7.1	12.1
422.70	Iceland Group	154	-7	...	2.8	9.7
41.10	JLI Group	99	-5	...	6.0	10.8
846.10	Kwik Save	547†	+2	...	4.2	9.9
80.10	Low (Wm)	150†	-3	...	7.0	5.3
94.30	Matthews (B)	76	...	2.3	3.9	49.8
11.80	Merchant Retail	13	-1	0.9	9.3	28.2
681.60	Morrison (W)	95½	+6½	...	1.1	12.4
89.30	Nichols (JN)	226	...	5.5	3.1	16.4
1,312.20	Nthn Foods	229	+18	...	4.7	11.0
4.30	Nrthumbn Fn	9	-2	...	...	...
236.00	Nurdin Peack	186	-4	...	4.2	10.3
127.60	Park Foods	244	...	...	3.1	18.8
73.70	Perkins Food	60	-23	...	9.3	6.9
56.20	PizzaExpress	106	...	...	0.6	22.4
4.90	Regina Hlth	3½	-½	...	...	...
7,532.70	Sainsbury J	422†	+12	...	3.1	14.8
3.18	Sentry Farm	73	...	...	2.6	13.1
28.10	Sims Food	94	-10	...	8.6	17.7
1,424.00	Tate & Lyle	398†	-2	...	4.1	10.5
3,906.40	Tesco	199	+7	...	4.6	9.0
103.80	Thorntons	163	-3	...	2.8	...
13.70	Treats	144	+4	...	3.2	16.4
815.30	Unigate	349†	+1	...	5.9	11.4
1,821.80	Utd Biscuits	347	+13	...	5.5	21.5
19.30	Usborne	21	-½	...	3.2	15.5
106.30	Watson & Phil	274	-6	13.2	6.0	14.3

HOTELS, CATERERS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
3.12	Abrdn Stk Hs	26	...	...	...	...
156.50	City Centre Rest	82	-1	1.5	2.4	19.8
2,137.80	Forte	248	+4	...	3.8	19.5
25.20	Friendly Hotels	152	...	...	4.7	29.6
7.49	Harmony Props	9½	-½	...	...	...
49.30	Jurys Hotel	145	-2	...	4.4	11.7
1,842.70	Ladbroke	161½	+16½	11.1	8.6	13.8
543.30	Mandarin Orntl	80	+2	...	4.2	19.8
439.00	Queens Moat	47½#	...	...	3.7	...
160.50	-do- 7¾% cvpr	85#	...	7.5	11.0	...
5.97	Regal Hotels	1½	...	...	...	...
49.80	Resort Hotels	45#	...	3.4	9.6	8.8
12.10	Ryan Hotels IE	18½	...	...	6.4	...
228.80	Savoy Hotel 'A'	800	...	7.0	1.1	...
221.20	Stakis	58	-5	...	1.0	...

INDUSTRIALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
8.05	AAF Inds	35	-5	...	...	2.1
434.00	AAH	478†	-13	...	4.6	15.9
19.20	AIM	138	...	7.5	6.8	8.4
329.80	APV	112	...	...	6.0	...
105.90	ASW	158	...	...	4.7	...
128.50	Adwest	158	+2	...	5.7	15.2
7.22	Aerospace Eng	19	-2	...	4.9	25.0
64.70	Airsprung	273	-2	...	2.1	17.3
62.00	Alexdra W	184	-2	4.1	2.8	29.1
3.44	Allied Radio	7	...	...	...	...
84.50	Alumasc	278	-5	...	2.6	16.4
19.80	Alvis	36	...	1.0	3.5	7.4
27.20	Amber Ind	695†	+65	...	3.4	15.9
13.20	Amberley Gp	49	+3	...	2.6	...
37.70	Anagen	81	...	...	...	...
9.70	Andrews Sykes	68	-16	...	8.1	...
299.60	Antofagasta	953	+3	...	2.1	17.6
12.20	Armour	45	-2	...	4.5	10.7
42.50	Ash & Lacy	163	+5	6.4	4.9	16.7
8.54	Ass Br Eng	3½	+½	...	1.9	...
128.00	Avon Rubber	482	...	...	4.4	∞
28.50	Assoc Nursg	267	+2	...	0.5	16.3
52.30	Atlas Equip	503	-5	...	5.5	12.6
0.60	Ayrshire Metal	66	-2	...	...	...
773.20	BBA	191	+13	...	4.9	16.2
6.04	BLP Group	91	+3	...	...	...
23.30	BM Gp	21	-1½	0.5	3.8	...
3,013.10	BOC	633†	-18	...	4.6	14.9
155.80	BSG	60	-1	...	6.7	20.9
133.70	BSS Group	514	+30	...	4.2	28.4
12,124.30	BTR	349½	+2½	...	4.0	19.5
72.50	BWI	152	-4	...	5.5	14.1
160.10	Babcock	29½	-1½	...	4.6	17.8
4.26	Bailey (CH)	7½	...	...	...	...
261.50	Baird (Wm)	233†	-26	8.9	4.8	16.2
1,484.90	Barlow Rand	756½	+50	...	4.4	∞
84.30	Baynes (Charles)	61	+1	...	3.0	25.0
3.67	Beauford	4½	...	...	...	...
2.21	Beckenham	2½	+½	...	...	...
1.33	Bedford (W)	28	-3	...	...	...
20.20	Benson Group	15½	-½	...	2.4	11.7
76.70	Bespak	303	-12	10.0	4.1	9.5
92.30	Bibby (J)	59	-6	2.0	4.2	∞
4.41	Billam (J)	272	+8	5.3	2.4	13.7
2.44	Bilston Batsen	29	...	...	...	...
4.51	Bimec Ind	3½	...	...	...	...
51.00	Birkby	234	+12	3.7	2.0	12.1
7.17	Black Arrow	29†	...	2.1	9.1	9.1
6.09	Black & Edgtn	1½	-½	...	...	...
137.30	Black (Peter)	250	+5	3.7	1.9	22.0
44.40	Bluebird Toys	570	-14	...	1.0	17.4
150.30	Bodycote	260	-6	...	2.5	16.6
1.45	Bogod 'A'	30	...	0.7	2.9	11.2
5,714.50	Boots	550	-1	...	3.1	21.7
1.72	Booth Inds	43	-6	0.7	2.6	...
2,280.40	Bowater	457	+10	...	3.3	19.1
545.40	Bowater Inc	1905	+139	...	...	...
54.80	Boxmore Intl	247	-5	...	1.9	18.5
12.50	Brasway	16	+½	...	4.0	...
129.90	Brammer	290	...	13.0	5.6	21.6
7.04	Bridgend Gp	24	+4	0.4	...	...
69.20	Bridon	122	-6	...	4.1	...
7.11	Bridport-Gndry	71†	...	...	4.4	...
1,185.80	Brierley Inv	47	...	...	7.2	11.4
21.30	Br Bldg & Eng	190	-10	8.0	5.3	∞
3.87	Br Bloodstock	102	+19	...	...	...
125.20	Br Polythene	420	-4	...	3.1	15.1
2,680.00	Br Steel	134†	+10	...	1.4	...
28.80	Br Syphon	85	...	...	4.4	23.8
29.40	Br Thornton	183	+17	...	1.7	20.0
516.70	Br Vita	240	-5	7.3	3.8	14.8
70.70	Britton Grp	13½	-½	...	1.6	...
12,343.70	Broken Hill	745	+9	...	2.4	35.1
66.10	Bromsgrve Ind	91	-1½	...	6.0	11.8
3.36	Brooke Tool	4	...	...	...	...
11.50	Brown & Tawse	36	-4	...	...	...
157.10	Bullough	131	-1	6.0	5.8	22.4
6.77	Business Tech	14½	-2	...	...	...
13.00	CI Group	15†	-1	0.5	4.8	14.4
5.63	Campbll & Arm	39	-3	...	...	...
32.80	Cannon St	31½	-2	...	...	...
136.90	Cape	258	...	...	5.1	17.2
2,194.10	Caradon	370	+6	...	2.9	29.9
329.70	-do- pf	181½	-6½	7.2	5.0	...
153.40	Carclo Eng	254	...	8.6	4.2	18.1
1,724.10	Carnaud Mtl	2138	...	...	2.9	...
4.21	Cassidy Bros	78	...	...	3.8	12.8
46.80	Castings	222	+12	4.6	2.6	15.5
182.50	Cathay Intl	65	+9	...	...	...
12.40	Chamberlin Hill	130	-5	6.5	4.8	10.6
493.80	Charter	722	-9	...	3.8	11.0
61.40	Chemring	315	...	...	3.3	19.0
4.17	Chieftain Gp	48	-2	4.5	11.7	10.3
12.30	Chillington	39	...	1.0	3.4	...
343.30	Christies Int	214	+4	...	0.9	33.1
11.40	Clarkson	68	+3	...	4.6	...
1.20	Clayton Son	55	...	...	...	...
1.32	Co Designers	7#	...	...	...	...
2.48	Cohen (A)	403	...	3.4	1.1	...
78.50	Community H	240	...	...	3.6	16.4
108.20	Concentric	200	-6	5.8	3.8	∞
55.80	Cook (Wm)	255	+4	6.0	2.9	15.4
1,172.30	Cookson	300	...	...	3.6	27.7
8.15	Copymore	75	+4	...	1.7	22.0
61.00	Crmell Pic 'A'	151	-5	...	4.7	20.4
17.50	Crosit	117	-1	5.3	5.9	∞
10.20	Creighton Nt	223	+17	...	4.2	15.6
60.50	CrestaCare	36	-2	0.6	2.3	31.3
1,070.00	Dana	3650†	-56½	...	...	...
527.20	Danka Bs Sys	591†	-7	...	0.7	26.7
129.40	David Brown	225	+5	...	3.3	16.0
1.14	Davies (DT)	18	...	...	...	...
1,504.50	De La Rue	814†	+10	...	2.9	19.6
4.90	Dinkie Heel	37†	+4	1.1	3.7	29.5
308.60	Diploma	554†	-11	12.0	2.7	∞
107.60	Dobson Park	86	-3	3.7	5.6	∞
1.88	Dyson (J&J)	114	+3	5.0	5.5	21.0
9.76	-do- 'A'	81	+7	5.0	7.7	14.9
6.56	EFG	14	...	...	...	...
176.80	EIS	401	...	...	3.8	15.9
2.79	Elbief	22	...	...	...	...
13.90	Eleco	48	...	...	...	0.00
1,638.40	Electrolux 'B'	2300	-18½	...	2.3	...
22.20	Ellion (B)	65	+2	...	...	...
1,241.30	Eng China Cl	410	-19	...	6.1	23.9
18.40	Envirotmed	128	-10	...	...	∞
4,879.40	Ericsson 'B'	2600	-193½	...	1.1	...
36.30	Eurocopy	75	+17	1.7	2.9	∞
41.00	Expamet	65	+1	...	4.6	1.5
249.50	Fairey Group	660	-6	10.7	2.0	20.6
80.70	Fenner	117	...	...	...	...
7.04	Fernhdis Group	72	+2	2.0	3.5	∞
16.80	Ferromet	3	+½	...	...	...
4.56	Ferrum	14	-1	1.4	12.5	9.8
8.42	Fife Indmar	61	+3	...	5.6	...
946.80	Fisons	137	-5	...	7.9	12.7
62.00	Fitzwilton	53	...	...	8.6	...
62.30	Flogas	253	...	...	3.9	11.6
10.10	Folkes Group nv	33	...	1.5	5.7	18.7
11.10	French (Thomas)	93	+3	3.6	4.9	48.6
159.10	Frost Group	226	+14	...	2.5	29.3
28.00	GEI Intl	76	+1	...	4.1	...
1,293.10	GKN	490	-4	...	5.2	32.7
6.06	GR Hldgs	46	...	...	4.9	...
3.50	Garton Eng	92	...	4.1	5.6	...
247.50	Gestetner	132	-4	8.2	7.8	5.8
10.90	Gieves	48	...	...	...	34.7
20,726.00	Glaxo	682	-13½	...	4.0	17.8
9.92	Glenchewton	38	...	...	...	...
689.00	Glynwed	334	+7	11.6	4.4	31.5
67.20	Goode Durrant	127	+1	...	5.3	...
105.70	Grampian Hd	153	+12	5.5	4.5	26.6
2,321.30	Granada	496	+6	...	2.2	20.3
53.60	Great Sthrn	454	...	...	3.1	18.7
6.52	Green (Ernst)	81	+7	...	10.8	12.3
25.10	Greenacre	14½	+½	...	2.6	14.3
1.23	Guardian Grp	6½	...	...	...	...
59.30	Haden Macln	68	...	...	3.7	34.5
6.30	Hadleigh Inds	87	+6	...	1.4	...
82.10	Hall Eng	270	-4	8.6	4.0	22.5
419.90	Halma	214	...	...	1.2	28.7
31.20	Hampson Ind	51	...	1.6	3.9	16.9
13,426.30	Hanson	266½	+1	...	5.4	21.0
16.70	Harris (Philip)	149	-3	...	5.8	8.9
1,390.60	Harrisn Crsfld	200	+3	9.0	5.6	28.9
30.10	Havelock Euro	116	...	...	...	...
5.70	Hay (Norman)	38	+1	...	...	...
4.67	Headway	29	-1	...	3.0	...
2.02	Healthcare	4	-½	...	25.0	1.1
843.70	Hepworth	408	...	14.8	4.5	17.6
11.60	Hewitt (J)	205	...	3.2	2.0	16.0
2.71	High-Point	53	-1	0.5	1.2	...
49.20	Hill & Smith	165	-1	...	4.3	23.0
15.50	Hobson	17	...	...	...	...
5.36	Holders Tech	172	...	...	4.4	22.4
25.10	Hopkinsons	45	...	0.9	2.5	34.0
15.10	Hornby	186	-1	...	6.0	17.6
210.10	Howden	75	-3	2.2	3.7	13.9
209.50	Hunting	218	-2	...	5.7	18.4
133.00	Huntigh Tec	470	+5	...	2.7	12.0
980.60	IMI	302	+4	...	4.1	26.8
44.20	ISA Intl	114	+1	1.5	1.7	17.7
34.80	Intercare Gp	136	+1	...	2.5	14.4
34.70	Isoron	280	+1	4.3	1.9	16.3
4,483.50	Jardine Math	629	+36	...	2.0	22.8
946.70	Johnson Math	498	+4	...	2.7	19.3
50.50	Johnson & FB	36	-3	1.3	4.7	∞
17.20	Johnston	164	-3	3.2	...	...
6.17	Jones Shipman	24	-1	...	...	...
5.68	Jourdan (T)	30†	...	0.7	3.1	...
211.80	Kalon	160	+1	...	2.7	22.2
7.68	Kelsey Ind	250	...	8.0	4.0	...
239.90	Kershaw (A)	690	+5	27.0	4.9	35.8
33.70	Kleeneze	243	...	1.0	0.5	∞
6.93	LGW	156	+15	3.4	2.8	12.9
392.60	Laird	335	+14	...	3.9	16.5
38.50	Lilleshall	143	-7	...	3.8	18.8
13.90	Lincat	204	...	...	3.7	14.4
7.82	Lincoln Hse	31	-1	...	...	25.5
11.40	Linread	95	+6	3.8	5.0	14.7
48.10	Linton Park	313	+28	...	5.6	11.3
20.10	Lionheart	10½	-½	0.2	2.4	...
3.10	Locker (T) A	17†	-1	0.8	6.3	24.7
198.00	Lon Intl	117	-31	6.2	6.7	...
1,040.80	Lonrho	139½	+2½	4.0	3.7	...
331.80	Low & Bonar	340	+4	...	3.4	47.6
58.60	ML Hdgs	39	...	...	...	...
14.10	MS Intl	52	...	...	6.0	53.6
20.40	MY Holdings	49	-1	...	3.3	∞
164.80	Macfarlane	218	+10	...	1.9	24.7
405.40	McKechnie	446	+2	14.7	4.1	∞
70.20	McLeod Russel	116†	-2	6.1	6.6	∞
12.50	Maddox	14½	...	...	...	8.2
5.74	Magnolia	100	...	0.1	0.1	16.1
21.40	Mang Bronze	130	+15	2.5	2.4	∞
30.30	Marling	20½	-4½	...	5.2	...
41.30	Mayborn	211	+3	...	3.1	16.2
105.00	Mayflower	53	-2	...	1.1	44.5
371.40	Medeva	136	+1	...	2.2	11.0
202.90	Meggitt	94	...	...	5.1	16.0
93.10	Menzir	114	+2	...	4.1	18.6
30.40	Metrotect	126	-7	...	3.2	17.3
14.80	Metsec	96	-1	...	...	...
43.30	Midstates	86	-2	...	1.1	12.0
8.83	Mining & Aid	27½	+1	0.5	2.3	...
166.80	Molins	538	+25	...	3.3	12.9
731.80	Morgan Cble	336	+5	...	4.7	17.6
20.90	Morris Ashby	177	+3	...	4.1	13.3
8.18	Neepsend	34†	...	1.0	3.7	45.6
44.90	Nestor-BNA	60	-2	3.1	6.6	14.3
24.10	Nobo Gp	197	...	4.8	3.0	19.4
314.50	Norcros	180	+4	...	5.0	25.8
24.00	Novo Group	38	...	...	4.3	12.2
149.50	Nu-Swift	338	-5	...	...	∞
3.55	Office Elec Mac	58	...	...	...	...
23.60	OMI Intl	53	-3	...	4.2	...
12.30	PCT	161	...	...	5.6	18.3
4.23	Pacer Systems	90	+7	...	4.8	...
365.70	Pentland	101½	+2½	...	3.2	13.8
181.20	Photo-Me	305	-22	4.6	1.9	19.7
1,306.80	Pilkington	166	+½	...	2.0	...
92.00	Plarmbrook	92	+1	3.1	4.2	14.3
220.20	Polypipe	141	+7	2.1	1.0	19.1
14.10	Porter Chadburn	15	...	...	3.3	6.9
2.30	Porth Gp	12	+½	...	...	...
243.90	Powerscreen	283†	-21	...	3.0	14.7
33.50	Prospect Inds	19	-½	0.8	5.4	∞
6.58	RPS Group	53	...	2.3	5.2	12.2
1.16	Radiant Metal	85	...	...	...	...
32.50	Ramco Oil	180	+2½	...	0.7	10.3
2,988.80	Rank Org	914	+5	31.0	4.2	25.0
7.37	Ransomes	13	-2	...	...	...
2,416.80	Reckitt Colm	645	-13	...	3.2	14.9
23.30	Record	70	...	3.6	6.4	34.4
5.15	Reece	4	-½	...	...	...
55.40	Relyon	264	-1	5.0	2.4	31.7
144.00	Renishaw	295	...	...	2.8	35.1
77.00	Renold	117†	-3	...	1.8	...
7,375.70	Reuters	1773	+40	22.1	1.6	20.3
11.70	Rexmore	75†	-4	2.0	3.4	...
55.60	Ricardo Group	176	-1	...	4.0	24.9
5.45	Richard (Leics)	71	-2	3.7	6.8	...
21.60	Richardson West	82	-1	3.0	4.6	21.0
7.98	Ropner	122	...	8.2	8.5	17.3
18.40	-do- 'A'	118	...	8.2	8.7	16.7
24.10	Ross Gp	18½	+3½	0.8	4.4	7.6
149.50	Rotork	172	+3	...	2.7	31.1
32.40	Rubicon	105	...	...	3.3	23.2
14.60	Russell (A)	62	...	...	1.0	...
19.00	SEP Indl	31†	...	0.8	3.3	∞
669.30	SKF 'B'	1050	+62½	...	...	...
59.00	Savile Grdn (J)	59	...	...	4.7	29.4
505.90	Scapa	216	-2	...	3.3	16.0
124.30	Scholl	185	-4	...	4.3	13.5
1.79	Scot Heritable	5#	...	...	...	...
155.10	Scotia	287	...	...	...	...
46.50	Securicor	1120	+10	2.6	0.3	42.6
666.10	-do- 'A'	855	+8	2.6	0.4	32.5
816.60	Security Serv	745	+8	5.1	0.9	36.9
233.30	Senior Eng	117½	-3	...	3.4	19.6
95.60	Seton Healthc	322†	+2	...	2.3	19.0
2.38	Sheldon Jones	46	-17	...	...	...
7.85	Silloh	13½	...	1.0	2.8	14.7
150.40	Sidlaw	275†	-12	...	4.8	13.6
3,439.60	Siebe	570	-3	...	2.3	20.0
166.60	Silentnight	353	+3	...	2.8	19.1
2,934.40	Sime Darby	149	+7	...	3.6	∞
100.60	Simon Eng	100	+8	...	...	...
41.20	Sinclair (Wm)	189	+4	...	4.6	14.7
19.40	Six Hundred	36†	...	...	5.2	...
1,511.90	Smith & Neph	146½	-2½	...	4.0	16.3
5,133.80	SmithKline	375	-24	9.6	3.2	13.5
4,545.70	SmithKline Uts	347	-17	...	3.5	11.8
1,313.00	Smiths Ind	440	+1½	...	3.4	17.6
71.50	Sthn Bus	74	...	3.5	5.9	7.0
50.10	Spandex	466	...	...	1.8	20.7
26.80	Spear (JW)	510	...	4.5	1.1	9.5
262.00	Spirax-Sarco	339	-3	...	3.4	21.3
200.00	Spring Ram	54	-1	...	0.6	18.1
238.50	Staveley	209	...	...	5.1	11.8
52.60	Sterling Ind	188	-3	...	4.0	28.5
187.80	Suter	171	+4	9.0	6.6	17.9
	Swire Pacfc 'A'	533	+71	...	1.7	∞
1.62	Sycamore	1½	-1½	...	...	...
4.90	Syms-Pick	53	...	...	7.3	10.1
25.80	Sylone	158	+5	...	3.8	20.8
1,794.00	TI	386	+8	...	3.5	26.4
6.13	TLS Range	26	...	...	1.2	...
331.50	TT Group	324	+3	...	2.5	19.9
288.50	Takare	228	+1	...	1.0	19.0
6,288.10	Takeda Chem	719	-10	...	0.9	13.6
4.05	Tex Hldgs	61	...	...	...	...
7.07	Tinsley (E)	97	...	...	7.0	14.9
24.90	Titon	221	-9	...	2.4	∞
2,560.20	Tomkins	229	...	...	3.5	16.9
910.50	Trafalgar H	85½	-11	...	4.7	6.3
67.80	Transfer Tech	71	-6	3.2	5.7	8.8
83.80	Triplex Lloyd	130	-13	...	6.9	15.3
384.40	UniChem	274	+3	6.4	2.9	17.9
70.20	Unidare	365	...	...	5.4	18.3
11.80	Unigroup	38	-3	...	...	...
9,569.80	Unilever	1180†	+10	22.2	2.4	16.0
12,208.60	Unilever (NV)	7600	-99½	...	2.8	12.5
3.72	Utd Inds	9½	...	...	...	...
304.70	VSEL	806	...	...	4.7	8.7
16.70	Verson	12	+½	...	...	...
522.60	Vickers	150	+8	...	1.8	...
116.20	Victaulic	263	+1	...	3.7	13.0
181.20	Vinten	444	+5	...	2.0	20.7
201.50	Vosper Thorny	652†	+2	...	3.1	15.8
4.04	WSP Hldgs	38	-3	...	8.9	9.9
198.50	Wagon Ind	449	...	...	4.9	19.5
90.90	Walker Greenbk	96	+1	3.1	4.1	24.2
384.60	Wassall	252	-3	2.7	1.4	25.4
311.90	Wtrford Wdgwd	44	-1	...	...	...
449.50	Weir	285	...	...	2.7	16.1
5,436.10	Wellcome	627	-57	...	3.4	13.3
6.28	Wellman	19½	+3	0.9	5.9	31.3
169.80	West Hlthcare	333	-4	...	1.4	21.4
109.40	Whatman	480	...	9.7	2.5	16.3
73.50	Whessoe	254	+5	...	4.0	9.9
38.00	Whitecroft	87	+15	...	...	...
13.70	Widney	10½	+½	...	...	...
31.20	Willes (James)	120	...	3.5	...	35.1
1,724.80	Williams Hldg	352	+11	12.5	4.4	18.4
33.60	Wilshaw	41	-3	...	1.7	25.8
2,175.90	Wolseley	518	+25	...	2.1	24.1
3.10	Wood (Arthur)	155	...	1.5	1.2	56.5
13.10	Wyko	40	...	...	3.1	...
9.12	Young (H)	55	+2	3.3	7.7	∞

INSURANCE

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
472.70	Alex & Alex	1237½	+12½	...	5.4	...
4,132.90	Am Gen	1912½	-6½	...	3.8	...
15.50	Archer (AJ)	61	+1	2.7	5.5	29.7
10.90	Berry Bch Nbla	161	+5	...	4.0	12.9
77.00	Bradstock	142	+6	5.2	4.6	17.5
848.20	Britannic	449	-11	...	3.2	...
3,630.70	Com Union	653	+28	...	4.6	...
117.60	Dom & Gen	1730	-18	...	1.6	22.9
111.40	FAI	45	...	...	...	...
3,242.70	Gen Accident	719	+44	26.7	4.7	...
1,866.20	GRE	215	-8	7.1	4.2	17.9
247.50	Heath C E	382†	-9	...	5.2	...
99.10	Hogg Gp	153	-6	8.1	6.7	13.9
217.90	JIB Group	172	...	...	5.5	17.6
2,562.40	Legal & Gen	524	-8	...	4.6	31.8
2,551.20	Liberty Life	1094	+55	...	9.7	21.3
2,859.90	Lloyds Abbey	425	-24	17.3	5.1	15.3
187.90	Lloyd Thomp	278	-2	6.7	3.0	17.3
463.20	Londn & Man	385	-3	14.7	4.8	28.4
123.50	Lowndes Lmb	435	+4	14.0	4.1	15.4
3,928.40	Marsh McLn	5356½	-18½	...	3.4	...
25.10	Orion	122†	-2	...	5.1	...
22.30	PWS	71	+6	4.0	7.0	10.3
6,652.80	Prudential	352	-8½	...	4.4	23.4
519.10	Refuge	1010	-10	32.2	4.0	28.0
2,063.80	Royal	318	+7	...	2.6	...
955.90	Sedgwick	186	+5	...	4.0	22.0
63.20	Steel Burrill	135	-10	...	11.1	8.0
34.40	Stuge Hldgs	68	+5	3.0	5.7	∞
3,066.60	Sun Alliance	380	+6	14.2	4.7	...
155.30	Trade Indemnty	85	-2	...	...	...
954.50	Transatlantic	322	+1	12.0	4.7	28.9
495.50	Utd Friendly	605	-28	15.1	3.1	26.4
924.50	Willis Corroon	221½	-3½	...	3.7	47.6
5.51	Windsor	20	...	...	...	15.7

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
928.40	Alliance	1842	+10	45.5	3.1	40.3
230.70	Amer Trust	277	+1	5.2	2.3	57.5
480.80	Ang & O'seas	421	+5	6.8	2.0	53.5
80.00	BZW Conv	158½	+4½	7.8	6.2	18.4
304.40	Bankers	196½	+3	3.6	2.3	54.0
174.40	Baring Tribne	340	+4	6.4	2.4	53.8
10.60	Berry Starq	203	...	2.2	1.4	66.0
424.30	Br Assets	110½	-3	...	4.8	26.3
115.00	Br Empire Sec	86½	...	...	1.3	73.7
4.12	-do- Wnts	31	...	...	...	...
645.80	Br Inv	207†	...	4.6	2.8	46.7
43.40	Conti Asset	200	+8	2.4	1.5	66.5
18.10	Derby Inc	153	...	...	11.6	9.2
44.90	-do- Cap	293	+3	...	...	...
11.50	Drayton Blue	91	+4	8.4	11.9	9.8
37.60	-do- Eng Intl	83	+3	1.0	1.5	...
152.00	-do- Far East	131½	+5½	0.6	0.6	...
33.30	-do- Korea	144	+7	0.5	0.5	...
225.40	Dunedn Inc G	711	+16	...	4.5	32.7
34.00	-do- Japan	85	+2	...	...	...
3.52	-do- Warrants	44	+1	...	...	...
245.20	-do- Wrwde	732	+20	9.5	1.6	∞
48.70	Dundee & Lon	290	+1	9.0	4.0	∞
931.30	Edinburgh	317	+6	8.5	3.4	34.7
493.00	Electra Inv	285	-1	6.8	3.0	38.9
170.00	Electric Gen	188	...	3.1	2.1	59.6
1.73	English Scot	115	+1½	...	...	...
80.30	European Asset	322	+7	...	2.2	41.8
31.70	Finsbury 'A'	132	+4	3.0	2.8	42.5
201.90	Fleming Amer	308	+3	0.8	0.3	...
121.50	-do- Claver	228	+4	...	2.0	44.0
216.10	Do Cond	331	+8	2.7	1.0	...
84.00	-do- Emp	210	...	...	2.8	42.8
574.60	-do- F East	380	+23	1.1	0.4	...
43.30	-do- Fledg	344	+8	3.0	1.1	...
33.21	-do- Fl Inc	116†	+7	...	4.7	19.8
247.90	-do- Japan	215	-1	...	0.3	...
423.40	-do- Merc	293	-½	6.7	2.9	62.4
396.40	-do- O'seas	298½	-2½	4.2	1.8	82.5
1,453.00	Foreign & Col	226½	+5½	...	1.6	75.3
122.00	-do- Emg Mkts	122†	+7	0.2	0.3	∞
63.90	-do- Enterprise	68	+1	0.4	0.8	...
135.60	-do- Eurotst	226†	+3½	...	0.7	...
49.90	-do- German	127	+5	0.5	0.5	...
339.70	-do- Pacific	319	+22	...	0.8	...
148.10	-do- Smaller	166	...	1.8	1.4	...
154.10	GT Japan	247	+2	...	0.6	...
31.50	Genl Cons Cap	174	+2	...	...	...
40.30	-do- Inc	117	+1	...	9.5	11.5
41.40	Govett Am Smlr	166	...	...	...	...
39.00	-do- Emg Mkts	130	+14	...	...	...
644.20	-do- Oriental	359½	+8½	0.4	0.3	...
220.00	-do- Strategy	275	+3	...	3.1	38.4
47.50	Greenfriar	413	...	...	1.9	62.0
0.82	Gresham House	19	...	...	...	...
366.10	Inv Cap	148	...	...	4.3	28.4
27.80	IGS UK Smlr	96†	...	2.8	3.6	26.8
172.50	Kleinwort Chrt	213	+2	5.0	2.9	41.5
191.70	-do- O'seas	230	-2	3.3	1.7	67.9
19.30	-do- Smlr	138	-1	...	3.2	33.5
164.80	Law Debenture	725	+14	18.5	3.2	38.2
107.80	Majedie	305†	...	...	3.0	38.3
295.60	Merchants	289	+4	...	4.8	26.9
10,134.30	Merrill Lynch	3150†	+43½	...	...	...
409.70	Monks Inv Tst	528	-10	...	1.6	66.6
35.40	Morg Gren Inc	145	+4	4.5	3.9	∞
2.58	Do Warrants	53	+2	...	...	...
18.30	Murray Euro	59	+3	0.1	0.3	...
1.20	Do Wts	20	+1	...	...	...
311.70	Murray Income	372	+4	10.9	3.7	35.3
441.10	-do- Intl	367	-3	11.6	4.0	33.1
254.10	-do- Small	453	+18	...	1.2	...
4.83	-do- S/C Inc	88	...	...	15.1	∞
5.04	-do- S/C Cap	128	+2	...	...	...
1.63	-do- S/C Uts	3150	...	...	4.2	∞
9.32	-do- S/C DP	159	+½	...	...	...
78.10	-do- Vent	310	+8	...	4.3	25.5
36.00	Nwthmg Inc	92	+1	0.7	9.3	17.0
130.30	O'seas Inv Tst	342	+7	...	1.2	...
111.30	Pacific Assets	562	+[illegible]	1.1	0.2	...
18.00	Do Warrants	468	+97	...	...	...
12.00	Personal Assets	8300	+50	190	2.9	49.0
306.70	RIT Cap Ptnr	170	+3	...	0.8	...
24.30	River & Merc	131†	-1	9.2	9.5	12.1
	Robeco	418	+5	...	3.0	...
	Rolinco	425	+7	...	1.8	...
98.40	St Andrew Inv	286	...	7.5	3.3	38.3
363.40	Scot American	162½	+3½	...	3.8	34.4
87.00	Scott Asian	319	+43	...	...	...
6.13	do Warrants	875	+142	...	...	...
335.40	-do- Eastern	84½	+2	1.5	2.3	55.5
590.40	Scottish	232	+4½	4.0	2.7	∞
840.40	-do- Mrge	233	+8½	4.0	2.1	60.5
50.30	-do- Value	105†	+3	1.8	2.1	∞
314.50	Second Allnce	1640	+11	...	3.0	41.3
302.70	Secs Tst of Scot	94½	+1½	3.2	4.3	31.2
46.50	Selective Asset	161	-1	1.2	0.9	57.9
47.30	Sphere Inv	39	+2½	3.1	9.9	12.6
84.20	TR Far East	181	+11	...	3.5	34.5
318.60	TR City Of Lon	180	+1	...	3.8	34.8
140.40	TR Pacific	209½	+16½	0.3	0.2	...
108.80	TR Property	38½	+2½	0.9	2.0	40.1
55.40	TR Tech Inv	126	+6	1.7	1.7	46.7
343.90	TR Smlr Cos	193	-1	...	2.5	44.6
211.40	Temple Bar	369	+6	13.2	4.5	27.8
120.00	Thrgtn Asian E	120	+10	0.5	0.5	...
227.90	Throgmorton	75	...	2.3	3.8	30.6
17.80	Throg Dual Cp	308	+3	...	...	...
88.20	USDC Invest	241	+7	4.5	2.3	44.3
50.50	Value Inc Tst	119	+1	4.0	4.2	29.0
577.40	Whitbread Inv	915	+20	16.5	2.3	55.1
861.30	Witan	229½	+4½	5.6	3.1	40.2

LEISURE

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
431.00	Airtours	467	-3	...	2.5	14.6
27.40	Ald Leis	45	-5	...	8.7	14.0
180.50	Anglia TV	430	-31	...	2.8	19.5
15.70	Baldwin	86	...	4.6	6.7	11.7
25.00	Barr & W 'A'	232	-2	10.0	5.0	16.3
45.00	Boosey Hwks	1155	...	32.0	2.4	17.3
14.70	Border TV	143	+5	...	3.2	12.7
12.70	Brent Walker	6½	-½	...	...	...
7.25	Bristol Scotts	130	-3	...	...	...
6.93	Buckingham Int	9½	+½	...	...	...
7.18	Campari	69	-5	8.7	15.9	...
172.00	Capital Radio	343†	+9	5.7	3.0	∞
1,749.20	Carlton Comm	879	+45	...	2.7	20.7
15.50	Castle Comm	248	+14	...	4.3	16.4
734.00	Central TV	2730	+80	39.0	1.8	29.7
27.30	Chrysalis	103	...	...	...	...
563.70	Compass Gp	627	+35	...	2.6	17.2
55.20	Eurocamp	210	-6	9.7	5.8	8.7
685.10	Euro Disney	403	-10	...	2.9	...
3.39	Euro Leisure	2†	...	...	...	...
24.70	Ex-Lands	34	...	...	1.3	...
9.80	Fairline Boats	280	-1	10.5	4.7	...
451.20	First Leisure	277	+6	8.2	2.8	19.2
18.10	GWR Gp	590	...	...	1.7	30.3
32.40	Grampian	230†	-8	6.5	3.5	15.9
1.05	Greenwich Comm	15	-1	...	...	...
72.30	HTV Group	104½	+4½	...	...	46.4
26.90	Hi-Tec Sports	56	-2	...	5.0	...
25.90	Kunick	10½	+½	...	...	...
612.30	LWT Hldgs	592	+7	...	1.0	27.4
64.90	Man Utd	532	-8	...	4.6	21.5
11.30	Northern	39	...	...	...	...
128.80	Owners Abrd	79	-1	3.9	6.2	6.3
29.80	The Pelican Gp	69	...	...	2.0	16.2
14.60	Prism Leisure	170	...	...	2.4	15.8
8.42	Quadrant Grp	36	-3	...	...	...
31.50	Radio Clyde	350	+3	...	3.0	27.4
12.40	Ramsdens (H)	206	-2	...	2.7	27.3
226.10	Scot TV	469	-24	10.3	2.8	23.1
16.40	Southern Radio	58	+3	0.7	1.7	24.2
120.40	Stanley Leisure	263	...	4.3	2.1	20.8
7.36	Sunleigh	8	...	...	...	...
7.31	Sunset & Vine	128	-1	3.5	3.4	19.5
647.30	Tanjong	345½	...	...	0.5	18.9
17.70	Ticketing	2	-½	...	...	...
16.70	Tottenham Hot	104†	-1	...	2.4	5.5
27.50	Trans World	69	+2	...	1.4	25.2
52.30	Ulster TV	498	-9	12.0	3.0	15.3
77.50	Vardon	106	...	0.8	0.9	25.0
41.30	Wembley	16	-½	...	...	...
81.10	Yorkshire TV	161	-18	12.0	9.3	4.9
7.61	Zetters Gp	116	...	8.0	8.6	13.1

MINING

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1,388.50	Am Gold	5750	+375	...	3.8	29.2
382.60	Ang Am Coal	1518½	-6½	...	5.9	8.0
6,738.00	Ang Am	2800	+462½	...	2.3	25.6
22.10	Anglo Pac Res	28½	+2½	...	...	...
45.40	Blyvoors	189	+13	...	...	...
5.18	Bracken	37	+1	...	...	∞
87.40	Buffels	795	+49	...	8.0	7.2
4.12	Butte	1½	-½	...	...	...
4,622.00	CRA	779	+18	...	2.6	26.8
24.30	Cluff Res	33½	+1	...	...	...
5,536.70	De Beers	1456½	+149½	...	3.3	20.0
143.30	Deelkraal	144	+13	...	2.0	16.6
28.00	Doornfontein	70	+6	...	...	...
1,732.00	Driefontein	849	+57	...	3.8	16.8
17.10	Durban	736	+65	...	...	...
63.30	E Rand Gold	138	+2	...	7.7	4.3
24.90	E Rand Prop	75	+4	...	...	...
47.50	Eastern Trans	55	+5	...	4.5	11.8
405.40	Elandsrand	418	+37	...	2.8	10.3
1,224.60	FS Cons	1040	+88	...	4.6	13.6
13.30	FS Dev	60	+6	...	...	...
1,435.70	GFSA	1488	+38	...	2.7	25.8
1,472.50	Gencor	107	-2	...	6.2	12.1
277.30	GM Kalgoorli	55½	+2	...	2.4	22.7
12.30	Greenwich R 'A'	15	...	...	...	...
17.30	Grootvlei	151	+10	...	6.6	9.4
89.00	Harmony	331	+16	...	...	...
450.20	Hartes	402	+6	...	6.8	16.0
31.00	Inoco	15	...	...	...	...
528.70	Impala Plat	836	+18	...	3.3	28.8
8.26	Kenmare Res	8½	-½	...	...	...
203.40	Kinross	1130	+65	...	5.0	∞
984.10	Kloof	710	+56	...	3.3	10.0
18.60	Leslie	116	+7	...	9.0	∞
52.70	Lorraine	322	+20	...	...	...
150.50	Lydenburg	950	...	...	2.1	∞
1,553.60	MIM	111	+6½	...	2.0	56.1
2,996.70	Minorco	1330	+82	...	2.9	15.7
989.80	Ntn Brkn Hill	155½	+1½	...	3.1	25.6
596.60	Orange Free	2650	+93½	...	6.3	21.4
8,118.30	RTZ	763	+40½	...	3.2	21.6
93.20	Rand Mines	156½	...	...	7.0	∞
386.40	Randfontein	632	+54	...	4.5	9.5
389.70	Rentison	196	+9	...	2.2	20.3
1,394.20	Rustnbrg	1112½	+87½	...	2.9	∞
63.60	St Helena	661	+45	...	3.6	14.1
510.90	Southvaal	1965	+95	...	2.9	35.9
10.80	Stilfontein	83	+4	...	7.5	15.1
41.70	Unisel	149	+3	...	4.4	∞
7,504.20	Vaal Reefs	6300	+437½	...	3.4	11.4
243.90	Welkom	690	+49	...	6.2	21.6
246.70	Western Areas	612	+18	...	0.8	19.6
824.50	Western Deep	2975	+228½	...	2.0	14.5
2,705.90	Wstrn Mining	283	+14	...	1.7	...
130.30	Winkels	1070	+81	...	3.5	∞
62.50	Zambia Copper	51	...	...	...	...
88.50	Zandpan	68	+7	...	6.4	22.7

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
4.96	Abbey Panels	248	...	...	...	...
9.82	Airflow Stream	115	...	3.0	3.3	11.1
75.50	Appleyard	123	+2	...	5.3	...
13.90	Bletchley Mtr	303	...	...	3.8	15.4
28.40	Bostrom	180	...	6.0	4.2	31.8
1,591.40	Br Aerospace	421	+12	7.3	2.2	...
59.70	Burndene	53	...	...	2.7	14.1
13.30	Caffyns	403	+51	11.5	3.6	79.9
20.50	Caverdale	12	-1½	...	...	...
16.40	Central Mtr	123	-2	...	4.1	31.3
14.90	Cook (DC)	34	+3	...	3.3	19.1
376.40	Cowie (T)	263	+16	8.6	3.1	20.0
24.50	Dag Motors	136	...	5.7	5.3	24.6
28.20	Davnprt Vern	144	-1	...	3.5	18.2
30.90	ERF	315	-8	2.0	0.8	...
51.00	European Mtr	136†	...	...	3.4	19.1
87.00	Evans Halshaw	403	...	11.4	3.6	62.1
184.70	FR Group	245	+9	...	3.7	11.4
20,070.40	Ford Motor	4262½	+68½	...	...	...
26,645.40	General Mtr	3750	+150	...	1.4	...
4.98	Gowrings	55	-1	2.0	4.5	...
102.50	Henlys	257	+2	3.5	1.7	...
8,520.00	Honda Motor	875	+13	...	1.0	...
3.79	Jacks (Wm)	35	...	...	...	...
7.59	Jessups	86†	-5	4.5	6.5	...
268.30	Kwik-Fit	156	-1	...	2.8	22.0
410.60	Lex Service	434	+3½	...	3.3	23.7
28.50	Lookers	149	...	6.2	5.2	...
1,401.40	Lucas	189½	+11½	...	4.6	...
22.60	Malaya Grp	25½	...	...	...	...
96.40	Pendragon	250	...	...	3.2	33.5
41.70	Perry Gp	166	+9	...	5.4	...
37.40	Quicks Group	163	-2	...	3.6	20.8
2,074.00	Rolls-Royce	170	-3½	...	3.7	...
983.50	T & N	196	+9½	...	6.9	27.9
133.10	Trinity Hldgs	291	+16	...	2.7	24.0
74.50	Vardy (Reg)	163	-3	...	3.2	22.8
234.50	Westland	245	...	4.5	2.3	∞

NEWS, PUBLISHERS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
29.30	Adscene	198	...	5.0	3.2	20.3
5.16	Black (A&C)	335	...	13.5	5.0	13.7
295.40	Blenheim Gp	320	+8	...	3.7	11.0
60.00	Bristol	388	+3	...	4.1	32.8
526.30	Daily Mail	1305½	-25	13.4	1.6	23.7
525.00	Daily Mail 'A'	1305	-50	13.4	1.6	23.6
191.30	Dorling Kind	310	+8	...	1.3	28.1
3,782.00	Elsevier	5800	+140½	...	1.6	19.6
690.50	EMAP	398†	-1	...	2.5	24.5
313.30	Euromoney Pb	1525	+25	38.0	3.2	∞
17.90	Harrington K	188	-1	4.7	3.1	15.4
67.90	Haynes Pub	335	+8	...	2.1	16.3
120.50	Houder H'line	345	...	5.1	1.9	29.3
11.10	Home Counts	111	-1	5.2	5.9	...
98.80	Intl Bus Comm	151	-1	...	...	21.9
8.42	Int Cm & Data	12½	+1½	...	...	...
313.70	Independent	400	+5	...	3.1	21.6
166.00	Johnston Press	534	...	6.5	1.5	23.3
32.50	Metal Bulletin	333	...	8.2	3.1	23.5
625.20	Mirror Gp	196	-8	...	...	...
8,652.60	News Corp	456	+14	...	0.3	...
1,919.90	News Intl	228	+14	...	0.6	17.1
3,320.50	Pearson	589	+3	...	2.5	32.0
77.00	Portsmth Sund	642†	+2	...	1.8	17.7
4,580.00	Reed Intl	818	+20	...	2.7	15.6
28.00	Southnews	185†	+5	...	1.6	34.2
65.10	Sterling Pub	164	...	...	2.4	18.0
568.20	Telegraph	424	+18	...	1.5	17.8
4,527.10	Thomson Corp	795	-20	30.1	4.7	19.7
285.00	Trinity Intl	416	+18	9.0	2.7	24.9
1.28	Unit Group	24	-3	...	...	...
1,441.00	Utd Newspapers	593	+14	...	4.5	16.5

OILS, GAS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
61.80	Aran Energy	22	-1½	...	...	21.4
10.70	Alton Inds	34	-2	...	...	...
	Atk Oil & Gas	60½	-2½	...	...	...
19.40	Aviva Pet	67	-2	...	...	...
1.91	Beverley	5½	...	...	...	54.7
86.20	Br Borneo	196	-3	7.1	4.5	5.9
14,471.40	British Gas	346	-1½	14.2	5.1	10.7
17,167.90	Br Petroleum	315	-17	8.4	3.3	24.7
11.90	Bula Resources	1½	...	...	...	...
1,358.00	Burmah Castrl	799	+19	...	5.2	18.7
38.20	Cairn Energy	93	-2	...	...	8.6
318.70	Cabot Gp	308	-4	...	4.9	16.8
107.70	Clyde Pet	49½	+6½	...	...	...
19.50	Copley Res	39	+1	...	...	...
2.84	Edin Oil & Gas	17	...	...	...	...
2,105.40	Enterprise	428	-19	19.0	5.5	21.6
39.10	Exp Co Louis	27½	+½	...	...	...
35.00	Fairhaven Intl	27½	...	...	4.8	8.1
47.80	Fortune	4½	...	...	...	...
68.40	Goal Pet	51	-4½	1.4	3.4	6.8
10.00	Gt Western Res	34	-4	...	...	...
153.50	Hardy O & G	136	-10	...	0.9	12.6
61.60	Kelt Energy	40	...	...	...	...
780.50	LASMO	104	-10	...	4.0	21.1
4.82	-do- Units	68	-5	9.4	17.4	...
8.89	Mid Scot Res	4½	+½	...	...	...
302.00	Monument	54½	-½	...	...	...
5.72	New London	4½	...	...	...	...
15.10	Nth Sea Assets	20	...	7.0	4.3	10.0
113.20	Oil Search	37	-3	...	...	...
	Perror	16	-1	...	...	...
80.90	Pict Pet	156	-1	...	...	8.4
134.20	Premier	22½	-1	...	...	...
40.10	Presidio	158	...	...	4.2	...
342.60	Ranger	348	-7	...	4.6	...
36,855.10	Royal Dtch Pl	6875	-87½	...	4.4	17.1
9,444.60	Schlumberger	3900	-67½	...	2.1	...
38.40	Seafield	58	...	...	...	...
22,972.00	Shell	690	-8½	22.8	4.1	21.3
5.42	Sunrise Eng Sv	185	...	...	...	...
15.70	Triton Europe	19	+3	...	...	...
14.10	Villiers Grp	14	...	...	...	...
1,193.30	Woodside	179	-8½	...	2.0	...

PAPER, PRINT, ADVTG

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
27.00	AG Holdings	155	+11	...	4.3	13.9
76.60	API	361	+11	8.2	2.9	∞
1,951.20	Arjo Wiggins	240	-7	...	3.4	38.8
80.40	Abbott Mead	536	...	0.5	2.2	28.1
145.10	Aegis Gp	18	-½	...	...	...
17.00	Aspen Comms	131	+1	...	4.7	11.9
1.47	BBB Design	18	...	...	...	...
107.30	Bemrose	424	+39	...	3.6	18.5
8.66	Birkdale	8½	...	...	...	...
563.30	Bunzl	133	-3	4.0	3.8	20.1
40.60	CIA Gp	347	-1	...	1.6	21.9
36.10	Capital Inds	135	+5	...	3.3	12.9
6.79	City of Lon	88	-1	...	5.5	16.0
24.50	Cropper (James)	304†	...	3.2	1.3	29.4
3.66	Crown Com	6#	...	...	...	...
7.46	Delyn Group	88	+1	1.6	2.4	11.8
24.30	Dolphin Pack	103	+2	4.5	5.5	25.4
9.00	Dudley Jenkins	78	...	...	5.0	17.7
29.40	Elswick	14½	-½	...	2.6	15.9
22.30	Fairway Groups	72	...	3.2	5.6	21.2
114.80	Ferguson Intl	349	...	...	4.5	15.8
17.30	Ferry Pick	128	...	...	5.5	34.5
37.40	Filofax	167	...	...	1.1	21.5
3.91	Firth	11	...	...	...	...
13.30	Gibbon Lyons	147	-3	...	4.5	16.3
53.90	Gold Greenless	206	-3	8.3	5.1	14.6
3.59	Goodhead	24	...	0.0	0.3	∞
20.30	Hunterprint	35	-1	...	...	...
8.66	Intereurope	162	...	...	6.0	11.9
86.50	Jarvis Porter	272†	...	...	2.2	25.4
13.30	Lopex	25	...	...	...	...
12.00	MMT	34	+½	...	...	...
106.30	More O'Ferrall	329	-2	13.2	5.0	39.4
47.40	NMC Group	117†	+1	2.7	2.9	18.1
14.10	Osborne & Little	233	+2	...	3.8	25.3
328.00	Portals	507	+1	...	3.6	17.5
6.51	Premier Hlth	2½	...	...	...	...
59.30	Quarto	281	...	...	2.6	17.3
307.60	St Ives Gp	311	-11	...	2.2	20.5
323.50	Saatchi	147	-33	...	...	...
564.80	Sappi	376	+40	...	8.7	7.2
4.46	Serif	18	+3	...	...	...
20.20	Shandwick	24½	-½	...	...	...
572.00	Smith David	370	+16	...	3.4	19.4
1,323.00	Smurfit (Jeff)	271	+2	...	1.6	6.5
1.86	Somic	93	+7	2.5	3.4	37.7
44.50	Sta-Plus	207	...	8.4	5.1	18.5
58.00	Taylor Nelson	269	+½	0.3	1.6	22.2
7.68	VTR	98†	...	...	4.8	14.7
489.30	WPP	94	+2	...	1.3	3.5
130.70	Wace	175	...	...	0.7	...
184.90	Waddington (J)	230†	-3	...	4.4	17.2
249.90	Watmough	374	-2	...	2.0	29.3
4.36	Westport	3½	-½	...	...	...
2.15	Whitney Mck	30	+13	...	...	...
15.50	Wood (SW)	94	+1	...	2.0	20.0

PROPERTY

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
76.60	Allied Lon	110	...	...	4.0	28.5
25.10	Arcadian	36†	-1	...	...	...
19.40	Ascot Hldgs	5½	...	...	...	...
104.50	Asda	133	+3	...	2.0	14.0
59.50	Avonside	137	+3	4.1	3.7	19.2
7,083.00	BCE	2312½	-12½	...	...	...
281.80	Bilton	642	+2	18.9	3.7	23.2
8.34	Bourne End	97#	...	...	1.7	...
340.60	Bradford	237	+3	5.9	3.1	24.0
4.77	Bredero	13	+½	...	...	...
1,299.00	Br Land	432	-4	...	2.1	39.1
565.30	Brixton	244	+2	...	4.3	19.3
143.90	Burford	88	-1	...	1.8	...
56.10	Cap & Regnl	188	+3	...	0.9	...
6.12	Cardiff Prop	230	...	2.4	1.3	...
111.10	Chesterfield	594†	+3	11.5	2.4	42.5
4.78	City Site Ests	31	-2	...	...	...
7.01	Clarke Nickolls	34	+3	...	...	...
6.24	Compco	300	...	12.9	5.6	65.2
26.90	Conrad Rbts GS	45	...	...	...	...
233.80	Daejan	1435	+12	...	2.4	17.7
0.93	Dares Estates	½	-½	...	...	...
56.00	Debenham Twsn	128	+4	...	2.9	24.9
3.78	De Morgan	8	...	...	...	...
31.00	Dencora	174	...	3.0	2.2	...
77.30	Derwent Hldgs	664	...	8.7	1.6	...
39.50	Development Sec	39½	+½	...	...	...
7.18	Dwyer	56	-1	...	...	...
23.70	Estates Agency	395	...	...	2.4	46.9
4.05	Estates Gen	19	...	...	...	...
142.50	Evans Of Leeds	215	+1	...	2.8	18.8
32.20	Five Oaks	33	+1	...	...	...
5.37	Fletcher King	64	...	1.0	2.0	42.4
257.00	Frogmore	511	+16	...	3.9	24.6
46.20	Grainger	232	...	5.2	2.9	∞
683.40	Gt Portland	224	+4	...	4.5	21.4
84.20	Greycoat	16†	...	...	...	...
5,051.00	HK Land	188	+14	...	3.4	24.8
220.50	Hambro Cntyw	67	+7	0.5	0.9	...
1,016.10	Hammerson	405†	+19	10.0	3.1	41.0
48.40	Helical Bar	298	+4	...	2.1	10.7
33.60	Hemingway	34½	+1½	...	...	...
9.60	Herring Baker	60	...	3.7	7.8	15.1
2.76	Jermyn	138	...	...	...	...
4,017.60	Land Sec	794†	+37	23.1	3.6	23.7
274.80	Lon Merch Sec	113	...	4.0	4.4	17.6
5.00	Lon & Metro	11	...	...	...	...
2,177.80	MEPC	561	+38	...	4.6	38.5
3.91	McInerney A	6½	...	...	...	...
43.50	McKay Secs	160	+5	3.5	2.7	22.0
3.66	Markheath	3	-½	...	...	...
10.90	Merivale Mre	79	...	...	...	...
1.32	Merlin Intl	5#	...	...	...	...
16.30	Moorfield Est	50	+4	...	...	...
58.80	Mountview	1200	...	22.0	2.3	12.0
168.80	Mucklow (A&J)	173	...	...	4.4	26.9
6.99	Olives Prop	59	-2	...	...	...
1.59	Osprey Est	1½	...	...	...	0.5
203.50	PSIT	165	-2	4.1	3.1	32.7
280.10	Peel	351	+7	4.0	1.4	...
5.81	Power Corp	5	...	...	...	...
7.59	Property Trust	40	+1	...	...	11.4
33.90	Raglan	36	+1	...	...	...
31.60	Regalian	27	+1½	...	...	...
16.90	Rowlinson Secs	135	...	1.5	1.4	36.2
56.10	St Modwen Prp	48	+1	0.9	2.3	36.6
30.00	Savills	81	+3	...	1.5	32.1
119.10	Scot Met	92	+1	...	2.0	∞
56.90	Shaftesbury	117	...	...	...	...
1.06	Shield	11	...	...	...	5.8
1,065.30	Slough Estates	277	-3	...	3.7	19.4
98.80	Southend Prop	92	...	...	3.3	...
42.30	Stanhope Prps	25½	...	...	...	...
103.80	Tops Ests	225	...	2.1	1.2	80.0
131.70	Town Centre	130	-3	...	3.3	23.3
65.20	Trafford Park	96	+1	...	3.6	22.1
1.39	UK Land	32	...	...	...	...
18.40	Union Square	9½	...	...	...	...
149.20	Warner	307	+6	10.4	4.2	28.0
83.30	Warnford	217	...	7.5	4.4	15.7
2.51	Waterglade	2½	...	...	...	...
140.40	Wates	91	-1	...	...	...
6.15	Wood John D	75	+9	...	...	...

SHOES, LEATHER

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1.65	Automagic	29	+1	...	...	...
63.00	Headlam	185	+5	...	2.0	41.8
19.30	Lambert	320	...	13.2	5.2	7.8
11.10	Pittards	51	...	1.5	3.7	14.6
35.80	Strong & Fisher	21	...	1.0	6.0	5.8
41.90	Stylo	217	...	...	1.7	...
22.30	UK Safety	58	-1	...	5.6	1.9

TEXTILES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
142.60	Allied Text	495	...	12.7	3.2	15.9
6.84	Beckman (A)	56	...	3.5	5.0	∞
2.63	Bolton Gp	28	+2	...	...	...
22.70	Br Mohair	171	...	8.5	6.2	16.0
2.25	Charnwell	36	-4	...	...	...
138.40	Claremont Gn	341	-3	7.5	2.8	21.3
482.80	Courtauld Text	478	-68	13.0	3.6	13.1
4.48	Cupid	25	-1	...	...	...
210.90	Dawson	135	+3	...	7.1	10.2
5.85	Drummond	36	-4	...	...	...
9.70	Faupel	83	+1	...	7.4	12.0
2.41	Foster (John)	21	+1	...	...	...
5.58	Gaskell	115	...	4.2	4.6	...
37.60	Hicking Pnest	228	+34	...	2.3	16.0
5.13	Jerome (S)	68	...	...	0.4	...
118.20	Lamont	394	...	12.0	3.8	26.1
96.10	Leeds	506	...	8.5	2.1	∞
8.89	Lister	54	-3	0.1	0.2	...
6.46	Lyles (S)	89	+1	...	4.6	...
53.80	Magellan	211	-1	1.4	0.8	...
14.50	Parkland	196	-2	...	1.1	...
187.20	Readicut	96½	-½	...	4.5	15.2
2.09	SEET	52	-1	...	...	...
69.00	Sirdar	129	-1	...	5.2	8.9
46.90	Stirling Gp	54	-17	1.9	4.4	14.8
25.30	Stoddard	36†	-1	...	5.2	33.5
17.30	Tomkinsons	278†	...	11.5	5.2	∞
9.27	West Trust	37#	...	...	4.2	...
24.20	Yorklyde	242	+2	...	2.8	15.9

TOBACCOS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
16,097.90	BAT	523	+1	...	4.6	15.7

TRANSPORT

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
981.70	Assoc Br Ports	523	+5	...	2.7	...
5,069.40	BAA	994†	+35	...	2.1	24.7
4,141.20	Br Airways	435†	+5	...	3.1	19.5
22.90	Clarkson (H)	100	-1	1.7	2.2	...
26.30	Davies Newman	23#	...	...	...	...
1,273.80	Eurotunnel Uts	476	-13	...	...	...
17.70	Fisher (James)	72	-6	0.5	0.9	19.3
32.90	IoM Steam	219	+1½	...	4.8	11.5
7.60	Jacobs (JI)	33	-1	0.5	1.9	...
15.40	Lon O'Seas Frs	102	-1	...	1.3	18.7
300.70	Mersey Docks	438	+8	...	2.6	29.3
99.80	Natl Express	249	-6	...	3.6	25.7
1,613.50	NFC	233†	-8	...	3.8	18.1
473.10	Ocean Group	307	-11	...	5.8	...
27.80	Ocean Wilson	70	...	4.0	7.1	12.7
3,731.30	P & O Dfd	625	+23	...	6.1	31.0
116.60	P & O 5½%	175	-13	...	3.9	...
402.00	Powell Duffryn	510†	-18	...	4.6	23.6
21.60	Seacon	222	+11	...	3.0	14.0
181.70	Stagecoach	150	+2	...	3.2	18.1
440.90	TNT	78	+4½	...	...	...
322.60	Tibbet & Britn	748	+20	12.6	2.1	28.7
65.20	Tiphook	99	+2	...	...	...
401.30	TDG	273	-1	...	4.3	9.0

WATER

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1,672.40	Anglian Water	505†	+17	...	4.8	11.3
59.30	Mid Kent Hdgs	347	...	...	3.9	12.6
479.91	Northumbrian	398	-18	...	4.4	8.3
2,111.20	North West	566	-19	...	4.9	9.2
2,183.30	Severn Trent	609	+31	...	4.5	9.3
1,067.60	Sthrn Water	637	-31	...	4.2	10.6
84.80	Sth Staffs	1515†	...	69.5	4.0	10.9
778.10	South West	621†	-21	...	4.9	10.2
2,199.10	Thames Water	561	-14	...	4.5	11.0
1,108.70	Welsh Water	690	+20	...	4.4	7.0
857.90	Wessex Water	582	+8	...	3.9	10.3
1,205.20	Yorkshire W	604	+28	...	4.6	9.0

Source: Finstat

* USM. # Price at suspension. † Ex dividend. ‡ Ex scrip. † Ex rights issue. ‡ Ex all. § Ex capital distribution. ∞ Figures or report awaited. ... No significant data.

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

Stock Outstanding (£million)	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
2,103	Treas 8¾% 1994	100[illegible]	-[illegible]	8.46	5.22
550	Treas 14½% 1994	102[illegible]	-[illegible]	14.21	5.11
1,100	Exch 13½% 1994	103[illegible]	-[illegible]	13.00	5.03
1,900	Treas 10% 1994	102[illegible]	...	9.76	4.97
1,240	Exch 12½% 1994	105[illegible]	-[illegible]	11.90	4.97
1,900	Treas 9% 1994	103[illegible]	-[illegible]	8.68	4.88
2,350	Treas 12% 1995	107[illegible]	+[illegible]	11.15	4.91
214	Gas 3% 1990-95	97[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.07	4.70
2,500	Exch 10¼% 1995	108[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.49	4.97
840	Treas 12¾% 1995	114[illegible]	+[illegible]	11.18	4.99
770	Treas 14% 1996	117[illegible]	+[illegible]	11.90	5.06
1,150	Treas 15¼% 1996	122[illegible]	+[illegible]	12.45	5.14
800	Exch 13¼% 1996	118[illegible]	+[illegible]	11.21	5.16
3,409	Conv 10% 1996	112[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.88	5.29
1,290	Treas 13¼% 1997	122[illegible]	+[illegible]	10.86	5.44
3,701	Exch 10½% 1997	114[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.16	5.44
5,550	Treas 8¾% 1997	110[illegible]	+[illegible]	7.90	5.31
830	Exch 15% 1997	132	+[illegible]	11.36	5.67
3,550	Exch 9¾% 1998	114[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.51	5.72
6,250	Treas 7¼% 1998	106[illegible]	+[illegible]	6.83	5.62
1,600	Treas 7¼% B 1998	106[illegible]	+[illegible]	6.83	5.63
1,200	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	102[illegible]	+[illegible]	6.60	5.45
970	Treas 14% 1996-01	131[illegible]	+[illegible]	10.65	5.88

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

Stock Outstanding (£million)	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
935	Treas 15½% 1998	140[illegible]	+[illegible]	11.08	5.81
3,909	Exch 12% 1998	125[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.55	5.91
1,900	Treas 9½% 1999	115[illegible]†	+[illegible]	8.21	5.89
3,050	Exch 12¼% 1999	127[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.58	6.02
1,252	Treas 10½% 1999	120[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.70	5.97
1,798	Conv 10¼% 1999	120[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.49	6.04
5,358	Conv 9% 2000	115[illegible]	+1[illegible]	7.80	6.02
3,171	Treas 13% 2000	135[illegible]†	+1[illegible]	9.57	6.28
4,406	Treas 10% 2001	121[illegible]	+1[illegible]	8.25	6.30
6,527	Treas 9¾% 2002	121[illegible]	+1[illegible]	8.00	6.42
5,600	Treas 8% 2003	111[illegible]	+1	7.16	6.34
2,503	Treas 10% 2003	125[illegible]	+1[illegible]	7.98	6.46
1,820	Treas 11½% 2001-04	128[illegible]	+1[illegible]	8.95	6.53
543	Fund 3½% 1999-04	84[illegible]†	+1[illegible]	4.16	5.51
3,412	Conv 9½% 2004	123[illegible]	+1[illegible]	7.70	6.47
4,842	Conv 9½% 2005	123[illegible]	+1[illegible]	7.68	6.52
2,300	Treas 12½% 2003-05	141[illegible]	+1[illegible]	8.82	6.69
2,000	Treas 8% 2002-06	110[illegible]	+1	7.26	6.46
3,150	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	134[illegible]	+1[illegible]	8.76	6.67
5,497	Treas 8½% 2007	117[illegible]†	+1[illegible]	7.25	6.57
1,250	Treas 13½% 2004-08	149[illegible]	+1[illegible]	9.22	6.71

LONGS (over 15 years)

Stock Outstanding (£million)	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
5,321	Treas 9% 2008	122[illegible]	+1[illegible]	7.35	6.60
3,100	Treas 8% 2009	113[illegible]	+1[illegible]	7.05	6.61
4,273	Conv 9% 2011	124[illegible]	+2[illegible]	7.23	6.62
5,190	Treas 9% 2012	125[illegible]	+2[illegible]	7.19	6.62
1,000	Treas 5½% 2008-12	92[illegible]	+1[illegible]	5.98	6.22
800	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	112[illegible]	+2[illegible]	6.88	6.55
4,950	Treas 8% 2013	115[illegible]	+2[illegible]	6.93	6.50
1,000	Exch 12% 2013-17	156[illegible]	+2[illegible]	7.66	6.78
6,950	Treas 8¾% 2017	125[illegible]	+2[illegible]	6.97	6.50

UNDATED

Stock Outstanding (£million)	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
1,009	War Ln 3½%	52[illegible]†	+1[illegible]	6.64	...
479	Treas 2½%	36[illegible]	+[illegible]	6.84	

INDEX-LINKED

Stock Outstanding (£million)	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
500	Treas IL 2% 1994	136[illegible]			
1,200	Treas IL 2% 1996	204[illegible]	+[illegible]	0.96	1.85
800	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	113[illegible]	+[illegible]	1.46	1.80
1,350	Treas IL 2½% 2001	174[illegible]	+1[illegible]	2.20	2.64
1,090	Treas IL 2½% 2003	171[illegible]	+1[illegible]	2.51	2.80
600	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	110[illegible]	+1[illegible]	2.56	2.84
1,550	Treas IL 2% 2006	181[illegible]	+1[illegible]	2.62	2.84
1,550	Treas IL 2½% 2009	165[illegible]	+1[illegible]	2.78	2.97
1,800	Treas IL 2½% 2011	172[illegible]	+1[illegible]	2.84	3.02
2,150	Treas IL 2½% 2013	143[illegible]	+1[illegible]	2.85	3.02
2,400	Treas IL 2½% 2016	153[illegible]	+1[illegible]	2.91	3.06
2,400	Treas IL 2½% 2020	148[illegible]	+1[illegible]	2.90	3.09
1,500	Treas IL 2½% 2024	125[illegible]	+1[illegible]	2.95	3.07

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Risk of air wars as US rejects free skies plan

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

THE threat of a damaging transatlantic aviation trade war has grown after American negotiators' rejection of a British plan to phase in complete freedom of the skies.

Officials from both sides had been meeting on a regular basis, with pressure increasing on them to solve what has become a growing embarrassment in Britain and the US.

In the context of the drive to the Gatt and Nafta deals, ministers had accepted that a deal would almost automatically be agreed on air services. This was not to be, however, and, at the end of last week, US negotiators returned home from London threatening that they would not even turn up to the next round of talks, pencilled in to begin in Washington on January 18.

Britain has warned America that it will withdraw permission for one service into Heathrow now flown by United Airlines and one by American in retaliation for an earlier US refusal to allow British Airways to have more than a three-month code-sharing deal with its new partner, USAir. This, the Department of Transport says, is in direct breach of an undertaking by the Americans and has no bearing on other bilateral trade talks. Unless the US gives way and honours its undertaking, action will be taken against the US airlines by January 12, the ministry says.

The Americans say that the two issues are linked.

America wants Britain to allow US airlines unlimited access to Heathrow and Gatwick and rights to fly to other countries having picked up passengers in Britain. The UK says that this is not practical because Heathrow and Gatwick are full to bursting and there is no additional room. The US challenges this and alleges hidden protectionism for British Airways.

Britain wants BA and other British airlines to be given the right to acquire up to 49 per cent of an American carrier if they wish and to be able to fly to other cities within America rather than have to terminate flights at a particular "gateway".

In an attempt at a compromise deal, British officials suggested last week that US airlines would be able to fly immediately from any US city into Britain non-stop — if they avoided Heathrow and Gatwick. Britain would then allow US airlines to operate another six new services into Heathrow and Gatwick and open up the two airports to any US airline, rather than just those flying there now. This is seen as an unprecedented offer and one that should give US carriers more in additional revenue than BA is likely to obtain through its new link with USAir.

Britain went on to suggest that, as the Americans changed their law and allowed a greater amount of foreign investment in their airlines, so Britain would allow more access to Heathrow and Gatwick, culminating eventually in complete open skies, with airlines on both sides free to fly where they wanted and when they wanted.

The Americans do not see it this way, however, partly because their airlines are divided over who should be allowed in to Heathrow. As a result, the talks are now seen as perilously near to collapse.

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar
1.4945 (+0.0033)
German mark
2.5369 (-0.0272)
Exchange index
81.5 (-0.6)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share
2459.7 (+11.0)
FT-SE 100
3261.3 (+27.1)
New York Dow Jones
3740.67 (+36.60)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
17257.43 (-201.92)

Opec rejects quota-cutting suggestion

OPEC ministers have decided against holding an emergency meeting to cut output quotas in order to stem a plunge in oil prices, effectively challenging oil dealers to do their worst and non-Opec producers to help. On Friday, Brent crude fell to $13.80 a barrel.

The decision, announced by Abdullah bin Hamed al-Attiyah, Qatar's oil minister and Opec president, follows discussions among Arab producers in Damascus. He reported strong feeling against a meeting and is to consult Oman, a past co-ordinator of action by non-Opec producers.

Messages have also been sent to Norway, Britain and some other exporters. Opec argues that the sharp fall in prices is not justified by demand and supply conditions.

REPORTING THIS WEEK

More electricity companies set for powerful payout rise

ALL eyes will be on the rate of dividend increases from the privatised electricity companies as they continue their interim reporting season, the early reporters having already set a cracking pace. UBS is looking for **London Electricity** to turn in interim pre-tax profits today ahead to £27.3 million (£17.3 million). The dividend is forecast to rise by 19.6 per cent, to 6.7p (5.6p).

Southern Electric is expected tomorrow to announce pre-tax profits up to £27.2 million (£15.3 million), according to UBS. The interim dividend is predicted to rise to 6.7p (5.6p). UBS also says that profits of **Northern Electric**, reporting on Wednesday, should be up to £44.8 million, from £39.5 million, with the dividend about 17 per cent better at 7.4p (6.3p). **South Western Electricity**, declaring on the same day, should see profits rise to £20.2 million (£15.9 million). The dividend is forecast to be 6.9p (5.9p).

On Thursday, **Yorkshire Electricity** should weigh in with a 15 per cent rise in its dividend to 6.9p (6p), with profits expected to climb to £48.6 million (£42.5 million).

Manweb, the North West electricity distributor, rounds off the reporting week on Friday and should manage to push pre-tax profits up to £44.3 million (£37.1 million). A dividend of 7.2p (6.1p) is forecast.



Simon Keswick of Trafalgar House: reporting a sea of troubles tomorrow

TODAY

Greene King is expected to report clean interim pre-tax profits of £11.4 million (£9.5 million), according to Nikko Europe. However, competitive pressures in the free trade remain intense on the trading front, with bad debts likely to be a problem for some time.

Interims: Baillie Gifford Japan, Berkeley Group, Brasway, Greene King, Hamlet Group, London Electricity, Norbain.
Finals: Hardys & Hansons, Mining & Allied Supplies, Richards, Unidare, Widney (D).
Economic statistics: Producer price index (November), index of output of the production industries (October).

TOMORROW

Trafalgar House, whose interests include the Ritz hotel and the QE2 luxury liner, is forecast to fall deeper into the red, with heavy writedowns forecast as the new management team is widely expected to adopt a "kitchen sink" approach.

The process engineering and construction group, 25 per cent owned by Hongkong Land and headed by Simon Keswick, is expected to report a full-year pre-tax loss of about £300 million, compared with a deficit of £30.3 million last time, according to Chris Alexander, of Lehman Brothers. Mr Alexander's forecast includes estimated asset writedowns and provisions amounting to a total of £250 million. Market forecasts range from losses of £150 million to £255 million.

"If I were in the new management's shoes, I think I would like to throw in the kitchen sink," Mr Alexander said.

Second-half provisions are likely to be made principally against group assets used in the course of trading, including various offices and the hotels, as well as writedowns of the residual value of the Emerald production platform.

The group has already indicated that the dividend will be cut to 3.25p (5.52p).

BZW expects new tenanted pubs to help **Vaux Group**, the Sunderland-based brewing and hotels group, to report final pre-tax profits ahead to £26.5 million (£24.3 million). Earnings are forecast at 14.8p (14.5p) a share and a slight rise is predicted in the dividend to 9.5p (9.4p).

Dealers will wait nervously for the latest instalment in the **Yorkshire-Tyne Tees Television** saga. In November, YTT, which had announced a £3.8 million interim profit, said that it was likely to show a loss for the year to September 30 due to over-optimistic advertising selling as well as closure and redundancy costs. A month ago, the television veteran Ward Thomas took over as chairman after the resignation of Clive Leach.

To complicate matters further, LWT, subject to a bid from Granada, has a 14 per cent stake, along with Pearson.

Interims: Amberley Group, Bogod Group, Ewart, First Technology, Halma, Melville St Investments, Slam Selective Growth, Southern Electric, Southern Water.
Finals: Aukett Associates, Charnex International, Sheriff Holdings, Southern Radio, Trafalgar House, Vaux Group, Whessoe, Yorkshire-Tyne Tees.

WEDNESDAY

NatWest Securities expects **Southern Water** to turn in first-half pre-tax profits ahead to £68 million (£60 million). A dividend of 7.8p (7.1p) is forecast.

Final pre-tax profits from **M & G Group**, the fund manager, are expected to advance to £48 million (£39.4 million), with a dividend of 22p (20p).

Interims: Bristol Water Holdings, Ensor Holdings, Northern Electric, Schroder Split Fund (Q), South Western Electricity.
Finals: Acatos & Hutcheson, Alvis, Baggeridge Brick, Chemring Group, Daily Mail & General Trust, Greencore Group, Group Development Capital, Haemocell, Hunters Armley Group, Kunick, M&G Group, Polar, Shoprite Group.
Economic statistics: Retail prices index, retail sales.

THURSDAY

Interims: A H Ball, London Merchant Securities, MS International, Plysu, Stewart & Wight, Sutcliffe Speakman, Victoria Carpets, Westport Group, Yorkshire Electricity.
Finals: Albion, AJ Archer, Barcom, Brunner Investment Trust, Chiltern Radio, Electra Investment Trust, Fairline Boats, Kleinwort Charter Investment Trust, Phonelink.
Economic statistics: Public sector borrowing requirement (November).

FRIDAY

Nick Bubb, of Morgan Stanley, the American securities house, expects **Asda Group**, the supermarket combine, to turn in a healthy advance in pre-tax profits to £83 million before exceptionals, against £46 million. Market forecasts range from £60 million to £85 million. An interim dividend of 0.6p (0.5p) is predicted. Mr Bubb says that strong sales growth, expected to be higher by up to 6 per cent on a like-for-like basis, will drive profits forward. Strong cost controls and the success of the Asda's price-cutting campaign have also boosted trade. Much of the profits improvement will, however, reflect substantially lower interest costs.

Interims: Abtrust Preferred Income Investment Trust, Asda Group, Manweb, Reliance Security, Eliza Tinsley Group, United Industries, Unit Group, Waverley Mining Finance, Welsh Industrial Investment Trust.
Finals: Burndene Investments, Trio Holdings.
Economic statistics: Business enterprise research and development.

PHILIP PANGALOS

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Private capital shuns the poorest nations

FLOWS of private capital to the Third World will again exceed official funding this year, but only a few countries, mainly middle income economies, are benefiting, according to the World Bank's annual debt tables. China is the big exception among low-income countries, standing out as the largest single recipient of foreign direct investment among developing nations. The aggregate flow of private funds into China is expected to have risen to $27 billion this year, from $24 billion last year and $11 billion in 1991. China is also the biggest developing country source of foreign direct investment in other countries.

The net flow of external capital to all developing countries is set to rise to $177 billion this year, after jumping to a record $157 billion in 1992, reflecting an increase of more than two and a half times in private capital inflows since the start of the 1990s. Apart from China, low-income countries have witnessed virtual stagnation in capital inflows, most funding still coming from official sources. The developing world's total external debt is expected to reach $1,770 billion by the end of this year, a 6.5 per cent rise over 1992.

Saatchi buyout denied

SOURCES close to Saatchi & Saatchi have firmly denied that the company is looking at any buyout proposals from Charles and Maurice Saatchi, the advertising group's founders. They said that Saatchi & Saatchi Advertising Worldwide, one of the group's two main advertising networks, is a core part of the group and is not for sale. The suggestion that the brothers wish to buy out the network follows Charles Saatchi's resignation from the board ten days ago, a profit warning from the company, of which Maurice Saatchi is chairman, and the closure of the brothers' offices in Berkeley Square.

Thyssen warning

THYSSEN, Germany's biggest steelmaker, could give up its steel operations and has already had several enquiries from interested companies, according to Heinz Kriwet, the Thyssen management board chairman. In an interview in a leading German financial newspaper, he says that if the price and competitive situation in steel becomes much worse, partly due to further subsidies for competitors, "then the seemingly impossible could happen". Herr Kriwet says he has the fate of 85,000 workers in Thyssen's non-steel activities to think of, as well as its 52,000 steelworkers.

Albrighton turns round

ALBRIGHTON, the building materials and quarrying group, proposes an interim dividend of 0.1p (nil) after reporting a pre-tax profit of £324,000 in the six months to September 30, against a loss of £62,000 last time. Turnover advanced to £1.74 million, compared with £1.16 million in 1992. Earnings amounted to 0.6p a share, against a deficit of 1p a share last time. The USM-quoted company said that it was confident about the outcome for the year as a whole. The shares closed unchanged on Friday at 18p.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 36

DENDROBE
(b) Anglicised form of *Dendrobium*, name of a genus of epiphytal orchids, of which many species are cultivated for the beauty of their flowers, from the Greek *dendron* a tree + *bios* life: "The discovery of what the Anglo-German importers call the Elephant Moth Dendrobe, the *Dendrobium Phalaenopsis Schröderianum*."
EPIGASTRIC
(a) Of or pertaining to the epigastrium, the part of the abdomen that is immediately over the stomach, hence *epigastric speech* means ventriloquism, from the Greek *epi* upon + *gastēr* stomach: "Sidney Rigdon, a man subject to the strange phenomena of spiritual epilepsy and epigastric speech."
PROSOPOPEIA
(b) A rhetorical introduction of an imaginary speaker or a personification of some abstraction or inanimate object, the introduction of a pretended speaker, from the Greek *prosōpopeia* representation in human form or with human attributes: "This is his one public literary Equivocation. It was resorted to to give additional weight by means of a harmless prosopopeia to an argument for the noblest of principles."
REFOCILLATION
(c) Total refreshment, revival or revitalisation; reanimation, reinvigoration; late Latin *refocillāre* to warm into life again: "Refocillation is a favourite resource — whatever the word may be — with authors not a few."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

a) 1 ... Qf3+ fails to 2 Qg2
b) Botvinnik blundered with 1 ... Rxe2? and after 2 Qg4+ he resigned.
c) The correct move is 1 ... Rf2 when White has to play 2 Qe6+ when he has nothing better than a draw by perpetual check.

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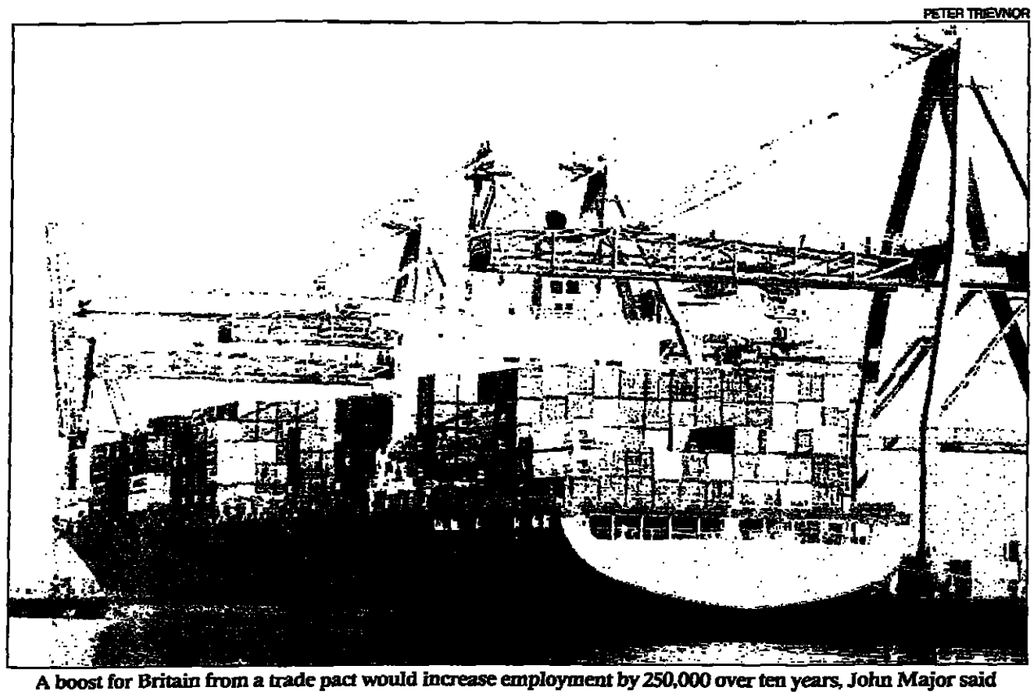
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Gatt endgame will sort out winners and losers

Colin Narbrough says the overall impact of a trade deal could be much greater than some estimates suggest

PETER TREVNOR



A boost for Britain from a trade pact would increase employment by 250,000 over ten years, John Major said

After America, Canada, Japan and the European Community concluded the "quad" deal on freer world trade in July, Mickey Kantor, the US trade representative, commented that there were no winners or losers. "We all won," he claimed.

Amid the inevitable drama of the endgame in the seven-year Uruguay Round negotiations on far-reaching trade liberalisation, it is tempting to argue, as have many politicians and economists, that everyone stands to gain from an agreement.

The British Government has been a consistent supporter of the round on economic and ideological grounds. John Major has even been bold enough to predict that a Gatt accord will boost employment in Britain by at least 250,000 over the next ten years. Given the wealth of forecasts concerning the benefits freer trade will bring, the Prime Minister's prediction would not appear over-optimistic.

Yet quantifying the benefits of a world trade agreement between 116 countries is virtually impossible, as is picking out the national winners and losers while the final complex package of deals has still to be agreed. That there will be a Gatt deal by this Wednesday's deadline set by the US Congress's "fast-track" authority to President Clinton has looked increasingly likely in recent weeks. But its final shape and detailed content will be crucial to any purposeful assessment of the economic and social impact.

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, working on the basis of the Draft Final Act for the Uruguay Round, submitted two years ago by Arthur Dunkel, Gatt's former director-general, estimates that agreement would give the world economy a $270 billion boost, at current prices, by the year 2002, equivalent to about 1 per cent of output. The OECD figure, however, excludes the services sector, which is being brought within Gatt rules for the first time.

Patrick Foley, chief economic adviser to Lloyds Bank, points out that an alternative study shows that liberalising trade in services is likely to have a somewhat greater effect on the world economy than freeing trade in manufacturing goods.

Neither the benefit of successful trade reform to investment, nor the increased potential for economies of scale, are included in the OECD estimates, which suggests that the overall impact of a Gatt deal could be much greater. Forecasts at the upper end of the range are for a $450 billion economic boost. An important point made by the OECD is that its estimate assumes that present levels of trade protection remain unchanged. As many experts believe a failed Uruguay Round would lead to more protectionist policies, the benefit of an early agreement would be all the greater.

One way of identifying potential winners in a world of expanded trade is to look at the countries that have above-average exports as a share of their gross domestic product. The top ten are all in western Europe, but Britain is not among them: OECD figures show that full implementation of the Uruguay Round would lift growth in the EC and Japan by 1.7 per cent by 2002, against only 0.4 per cent for America. The newly industrialised economies of Asia, including the rapidly expanding China, stand to be the biggest beneficiaries. Some developing countries, such as Indonesia, are expected to suffer economic loss because of the expected shift in the terms of agricultural trade.

In services, the fastest-growing element of world trade for the past decade, the Americans stand to be the biggest winners because of their highly developed service industries. Annual world trade in services is around $1,000 billion, making it twice as important as trade in farm goods, the area that has been the main obstacle to transatlantic accord on the Gatt round. America's services industries account for 70.1 per cent of its GDP. In France, its main competitor in the field, services contribute 64.6 per to GDP, though most of this is not tradeable across frontiers. The OECD, which sees America, the EC and eastern Europe as the regions likely to draw most advantage from liberalised services, foresees trade in this area rising 5 per cent worldwide by 2002, against only 2 per cent for agricultural produce.

Farmers from the paddy fields of Japan to the rich arable lands of France have protested loudly against the Gatt round, which they fear will remove the high levels of protection they enjoy and lower incomes drastically. Although the political clout they have in some countries has forced governments to pay attention to their farmers' demands, trade liberalisation offers consumers lower prices on a broad range of products.

The Gatt secretariat says that farm support costs the average EC consumer $450 each year on food bills. In Japan, the cost is $600. The removal of import restrictions and subsidies on food is, however, expected to push world prices for many agricultural commodities up, as subsidised exports reduce. Unsubsidised farmers in countries like Canada and Argentina stand to gain.

Manufactured goods have been the least difficult of the negotiating sectors, possibly reflecting Gatt negotiators' familiarity with this area of trade. The quad deal set zero tariffs on pharmaceuticals, construction equipment, medical equipment, steel, beer, furniture, farm equipment and spirits, in some cases subject to sectoral agreements running alongside the Uruguay Gatt round. The major trading nations are also committed to seeking to widen zero tariffs to more products.

Trade in maritime services, steel, rice, audio-visual products, financial services, textiles, market access, and the proposed Gatt successor, the Multilateral Trade Organisation, have all emerged as seemingly insurmountable obstacles.

Even if the December 15 deadline were still bent, the Uruguay Round will probably produce liberalisation in many areas. It has been claimed that 95 per cent of its ambitious goals have been agreed. That "nothing is agreed until everything is agreed", the maxim of Gatt negotiators, is not necessarily true. Many countries, particularly in Latin America, have liberalised their markets in anticipation of a Gatt accord.

The North American Free Trade Agreement last month added weight to the view that regional trading blocs are on the ascendant. Provided such blocs continue to liberalise trade internally and externally, fears that the world could slip back into Thirties-style trade war and depression are unwarranted.

If successful, the Gatt round looks set to reinforce the current trend of economic activity becoming increasingly centred on dynamic Asia and the Pacific Rim. Whatever emerges from Geneva this week, Britain and its European partners will continue to face the problem of substantial dislocation and rising structural unemployment.

Time for Heseltine to keep faith and turn down the Gas pressure



GRAHAM SEARJEANT

Should Michael Heseltine still be pondering what he should do about the Monopolies Commission recommendations to restructure British Gas and take away more of its business, he need look no further than statements he presented to Parliament in the spring. He then argued, variously, that the Government would not wish to "undermine confidence in the stability of the regulatory framework established at the time of privatisation", that "a stable regulatory environment is essential to investor confidence" and "any significant departure from its existing policy would risk damaging investor confidence".

Those statements were made about the electricity industry. But they are not irrelevant. The issue there was pretty important: whether much could be done about the closure of more than half the country's remaining deep-mined coal industry. Mr Heseltine concluded it could not. In the case of British Gas, the issues behind the reform proposals are comparatively trivial.

There is no suggestion that residential customers have had a raw deal under the existing regime of monopoly regulation. Far from it. The unit cost of gas has fallen by 23 per cent in real terms since privatisation. In the past two years, prices have fallen 5 per cent in money terms and by 9½ per cent allowing for inflation. Service has improved to a generally good standard. The case for reform is therefore almost entirely theoretical: that competition is good for consumers and should be promoted and that potential competitors might be put off by British Gas owning the distribution system they must use, however carefully it is regulated.

If the plight of the coal industry was not a strong enough argument for interfering with the electricity privatisation settlement, this trivial theoretical issue is certainly no reason to tear up the tattered remains of the 25-year British Gas licence after seven years and break faith with roughly two million of us who bought British Gas shares at privatisation and still own them. Shareholders have already suffered greatly through official interference and confiscation. City estimates suggest that British Gas will eventually lose about £200 million a year of profits as a result of imposed changes that have nothing to do with the proper price pressure applied by Ofgas, the monopoly regulator. By far the worst was the OFT ruling that forced British Gas to divest 60 per cent of the industrial gas market, giving it away to competitors regardless of the attitude of customers. How oddly that rings against Mr Heseltine's statement in the coal White Paper that government "should not seek to interfere in freely negotiated commercial arrangements". Having come round to that view, he should not neglect it this time, remembering also that privatisation was just such an arrangement between the government and investors.

Whitehall interference is really what it is all about. Privatisation was benign interference to end interference. But it has all gone sadly wrong. When the chairman of the Gas Consumers Council objected to radical reform because it would put prices up for most domestic customers, Sir James McKinnon, then Director-General of Gas Supply, retorted: "I can see why they might argue, 'if it's not broke, don't fix it' but my view is, if you can do things better, why not?" That expresses in a nutshell the old Whitehall culture of intervention in business. The only difference is that there is a new excuse for government knowing best. Instead of corporatist notions of national planning and the national interest, we have liberal notions of competition and the national interest.

> 'More competition means higher prices, since it favours the few over the many'

For British Gas shareholders, there is a further peril: the internal politics of Whitehall. Mr Heseltine's department argued against forced divestment of British Gas's trading business, on the new ground that this would diminish its range of experience and expertise and therefore hinder its growth outside Britain, where it has become a much-favoured and trusted partner for developing other countries' gas businesses. The company's appeal has been that it has a safety culture and is not a fly-by-night operator.

Mr Heseltine knows, however, that he will have difficulty getting the Cabinet to agree to throw out the MMC report altogether. His colleague Michael Portillo, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, was a staunch critic of the original privatisation settlement in his days on the backbenches. He argued that it did not provide for enough competition or, in the industrial market, enough regulation. *The Times* agreed with him. But the Government would have none of it and signed a treaty with British Gas and investors. As a senior Cabinet minister, Mr Portillo, like Mr Heseltine, should respect his own government's treaties.

Given the precedents for tearing them up, however, there is intense Cabinet pressure to push competition as far as it will go. There is equal pressure to do nothing to raise prices after the imposition of VAT on fuel bills. The latter priority can easily be met by forgetting the former. There is much argument about what would happen in the long term, none over the short term. More competition in the residential gas market means higher prices, to pay for reorganisation and because competition will favour the few over the many — unless British Gas shareholders can be made to pay.

This is what worries Geoffrey Maddrell of ProShare, who has reminded Mr Heseltine that one in five British private shareholders has shares in British Gas. The MMC suggested that tariff prices should be eased by 1 per cent, because of the impact of last year's shrinkage of British Gas's monopoly, and that consumers would have to pay the much higher cost of breaking up British Gas; it envisaged a rise in prices charged to tariff customers, to compensate British Gas for the next chunk it wants exposed to competition. If divestment were ruled out but competition extended, British Gas shareholders could be forced to pay the cross-subsidies larger users now pay to smaller, uneconomic ones through the single tariff. Alternatively, foreign utilities that want British Gas business could be given local monopoly franchises, expropriating the value of British Gas's trading business. What a gas.

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THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Intrum collects race kudos

BO GÖRENSON, the nautically inclined Swedish head of Intrum Justitia, the debt collection group, is over the moon about his company's boat winning the rugged Uruguay to Australia leg of the Whitbread Round the World yacht race, and in record time. He tells me that the huge worldwide publicity meant that his strategy of sinking millions into ocean racing had scored a "bull's eye". It was the first time so small a player had fought off the big corporate names, and it proved to critics of the high-spend project that it was good value. The problem now, said Görenson, is that his firm may be too small to take full advantage of its prowess on the high seas. "This is like Formula One motor racing," he said. Could he be flagging fresh acquisitions? Görenson stresses that the fortunes of Intrum Justitia, the boat, were transformed when Lawrie Smith of Britain took over as captain after the Swedish skipper was injured. Could the canny Swede be on the prowl for a British helmsman for the group?

Smart card

THE pantomime season is starting early in the City, with an extravagant production from Winterflood Securities, the smaller company market-maker. This is not a live performance, however, but is illustrated on the firm's Christmas card, in which the faces of all the staff have been superimposed on well-known pantomime characters. Brian Winterflood appears as Doc, one of the seven dwarfs, alongside David Codd, the firm's co-founder, as Grumpy. Other staff have been transformed into Alice in Wonderland, the Ugly Sisters, Aladdin, and Peter Pan. The card was designed and drawn by the firm's Gavin Roweth, who appears himself as Jack (of beanstalk fame). It is being sent to Winterflood contacts to raise money for Remedi, the firm's favourite charity, which funds medical research. "It's all a bit of fun for charity," said Mr Winterflood, "but I might have been upset if they had made me Dopey."

Divine comedy

UNLIKE Saatchi & Saatchi, the UK corporate office of Fiat, headed by Richard Gadeselli, is not about to quit Berkeley Square. But that did not stop the Fiat team from moving down to the English Speaking Union *palazzo* in nearby Charles Street for a "Club Scrooge" spectacular. Host for the evening was one Johnny Lambs, according to the programme. Few of the guests had enough Italian to cotton on that this was simply a translation of Gianni Agnelli, Fiat's chairman.



Winterflood: cast as Doc

Cold comfort

AS RUSSIANS decide their economic future in the polling booths, Lord Howe, Britain's one-time hardman Chancellor, has fearlessly agreed to chair the first quoted investment fund for post-communist Russia. The Framlington Russian Investment Fund, which seeks an initial $500 million from US and European investors to back small- to medium-sized food, high-tech and consumer goods firms, has the European Bank and the International Finance Corporation putting up half the fund's capital. Lord Howe, exuding expertise accumulated as Foreign Secretary, says the fund will satisfy Russia's "genuine demand" for investment and help economic growth. However, Joe Duncan, chief economist at Dun & Bradstreet, says his recent Russian business confidence survey, also a first, shows Russian private-sector executives are much gloomier about their country's long-term growth prospects than are western businessmen. While 42 per cent of the western businessmen surveyed expected economic conditions to "improve a great deal" in the next five years, less than a quarter of the Russians agreed.

COLIN NARBROUGH

GILT-EDGED

Anxiety on inflation may force real yields still lower

A neglected aspect of the collapse in gilt yields this year has been the performance of the index-linked market. So far this year, total return on this has actually exceeded that on shorter-dated conventional gilts. Yields on longer-dated index-linked stocks are now at their lowest for more than ten years. In the next three months, this rally could go further.

To see the reason for this, we should contrast two different (and extreme) views of how gilt yields are determined.

The "classical" view says that conventional yields are equal to inflation expectations plus real yields, where real yields are determined by the real economy, and in particular by supply and demand in savings. In this view, a rise in inflation expectations will raise conventional yields.

The other view is of a world of perfect capital mobility, with conventional gilt yields determined by overseas yields and currency risk. It follows that a rise in domestic inflation expectations will cause not a rise in conventional yields but a fall in real yields, except in so far as the market considers currency risk a function of inflation differentials.

Experience shows that the latter view is the more appropriate to gilts, although by no means a perfect description. The notion that real yields depend on supply and demand in savings has been disproved by the fact that this year has seen the yield on 2.5 per cent index-linked (IL) 2003s fall by about 80 basis points (bps), although the PSBR has far exceeded the flow of funds available to life assurance and pension funds. The fall can, however, be explained by the fact that the rally in overseas markets has pushed conventional yields down. Because inflation expectations have fallen by less than nominal yields, real yields have had to fall: so far this year, ten-year bund yields have dropped by 140bps, while the spread between 8 per cent Treasury '03s and 2.5 per cent IL '03s has fallen by 80bps.

Therefore, for real yields to fall further, one of two conditions must be met. First, that, given domestic inflation expectations, overseas yields will fall further. Second, that, given overseas yields, domestic inflation expectations will rise. In the next three months, both conditions may be met. In Germany — the most relevant market for gilts — lower short-term rates (as the Bundesbank responds to slower monetary growth and falling inflation) should hold down yields.

> 'Inflation expectations may well grow. Certainly, headline inflation will rise'

More importantly, inflation expectations may well grow. Certainly, headline inflation will rise: higher indirect taxes and the exit of earlier mortgage rate cuts from the annual comparison will force it up. By April, it may exceed 3.5 per cent, even if mortgage rates fall by another half point. History suggests that movements in the gilt-index-linked spread tend to coincide with moves in "headline" inflation. This is not as short-sighted as it seems. Whatever their theory about the determination of inflation, economists agree that the main cause of inflation three months hence is inflation today, and so any change in actual inflation changes inflation expectations. Also, wage inflation depends heavily on price inflation. The market may fear, therefore, that higher RPI inflation will lead to higher wage inflation.

Higher RPI inflation will not be the only factor making the market worry about future inflation. Broad money growth may continue its recent modest rise, as a small pick-up in bank lending coincides with underfunding of the PSBR. The "output gap" may be seen to shrink, as the economy recovers at least as quickly as expected. Unit wage costs may continue to rise, as productivity growth slows further.

The Treasury and the Bank of England may be correct to expect inflation to fall back after the spring, as the lagged effects of recession outweigh all of the above. However, the market may well require more compensation for the risk that the Bank may be mistaken. This compensation will require the gilt-index-linked spread to widen. If conventional gilts continue to benefit from a bull market in global bonds, this wider spread will force real yields still lower.

CHRIS DILLOW
MARK CLIFFE
Nomura Research Institute Europe

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مكرر من الأصل

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (91961)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (97094955)
9.05 Kilroy. A studio discussion on a topical subject (4559042) **9.45 Newshound**. Current affairs quiz (s) (4280058)
10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1376690) **10.05 Playdays** (r) (s) (3955435)
10.30 Good Morning ... with Anne and Nick. Weekday magazine (15187435)
12.15 Pebble Mill. Among the guests is Liz Dawn from the cast of *Coronation Street* (s) (9480961) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (56480508)
1.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (21329)
1.30 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (78015431) **1.50 XYZ**. Alphabet quiz game introduced by George Marshall (s) (60910067)
2.15 Knots Landing. American drama serial (s) (2028348) **3.05 Family Affairs**. Family life series presented by Gloria Hunniford and her daughter Caron Keating (s) (8614961)
3.35 Cartoon Double Bill (r) (3554139) **3.45 The Adventures of Spot** (1266145) **3.50 The Greedysaurus Gang** (s) (7524058) **3.55 Star Pets** (3558955) **4.10 Bananaman** (r) (2673955) **4.15 Mortimer and Arabel** (s) (4502706) **4.30 Albert the 5th Musketeer** (r) (8387771) **4.55 Newsround** (8142232) **5.05 Blue Peter**. (Ceefax) (s) (1588049)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (792874). **Northern Ireland:** Inside Ulster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with John Humphrys and Moira Stuart. (Ceefax) Weather (416)
6.30 Regional News Magazines (868). **Northern Ireland:** Neighbours



Maureen Lipman sets questions (7.00pm)

7.00 Telly Addicts. The final round of the television trivia quiz. The guests are Jonathon Morris and Maureen Lipman (s) (5042)
7.30 CHOICE **Watchdog: The Price of Vanity**. (Ceefax) (752)
8.00 Birds of a Feather. Sharon, Tracey and Dorien fly further afield when a rock star offers them the use of his holiday villa in Majorca (r). (Ceefax) (s) (929684)
8.50 TV Heroes. Danny Baker in praise of Noële Gordon, the heroine of *Crossroads* (r). (Ceefax) (318597)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael Buerk. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather (4961)
9.30 Panorama: Getting Away With Murder. Steve Bradshaw reports on how war criminals in the former Yugoslavia are getting away with genocide (291400)
10.10 The Life and Loves of a She Devil. The final episode of the adaptation of Fay Weldon's story of a scorned woman's revenge. Starring Dennis Waterman, Patricia Hodge and Julie T. Wallace (r). (Ceefax) (560042). **Northern Ireland:** The Back Page 10.35 The Life and Loves of a She Devil 11.35 Film 93 12.05am-12.35 Careering Ahead: **Wales:** Expert Witness 10.40 The Life and Loves of a She Devil 11.40 Film 93 12.10am-12.40 Careering Ahead
11.10 Film 93 with Barry Norman. Among the film's reviewed are *Robin Hood Men in Tights, King of the Hill* and *Another Stakeout* (s) (624400)
11.40 Careering Ahead. A special report on the homeless and jobless (r) (320874)
12.10am Weather (9777646). Ends at **12.15**
3.00-3.30 BBC Select: RCN Nursing Update (50337)

BBC2

6.55 FILM: The Falcon Strikes Back (1943, b/w) starring Tom Conway. The smooth investigator is framed for robbery and murder. Edward Dmytryk directs (6657868) **8.00 Breakfast News** (2347023)
8.15 Westminster Daily (2433874)
8.30 Canvas. *Greenwich Reach* by George Chambers (r) (1235416) **8.50 A Week to Remember** (b/w). Pathé newsclips from 40 years ago (1908936)
9.00 FILM: The Fallen Sparrow (1943, b/w). Drama starring John Garfield, directed by Richard Wallace (89787) **10.30 FILM: Copacabana** (1947, b/w). Musical comedy with Groucho Marx and Carmen Miranda. Directed by Alfred E. Green (68139)
12.00 Play Chess! (r) (3883394) **12.10 Favourite Things of Bruce Oldfield** (r) (8147874) **12.40 Glynn Christian's Serendipity** (r) (61043874)
12.50 The Allotment Show from York (r) (2097665) **1.20 Melvin and Maureen's Music-a-Grams** (r) (s) (63232435) **1.35 The Story of English Furniture**. Robert Adam's craftsmanship (r) (20043394)
2.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (68016435) **2.05 Michael Barry's Choice Cuts** (r) (91493868) **2.15 Regional Westminster Programmes** (300987). **Northern Ireland:** Seabrook's Year **2.45 First Eleven**. Rodin's The Kiss (r) (3814961)
3.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (9889226) **3.05 Songs of Praise** from Wrexham and Oradea in Romania (r). (Ceefax) (s) (4200918) **3.40 A Week To Remember** (b/w) (r). (1183868) **3.50 News** (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1172752)
4.00 Catchword. Paul Coia's word game (481)
4.30 Wildlife Showcase: Lost Angels – the Great Whale Rescue (r). (Ceefax) (665)
5.00 Today's the Day. Nostalgia quiz (s) (6348)
5.30 The Wartime Kitchen and Garden (r). (Ceefax) (s) (145)
6.00 The Addams Family (b/w). Classic ghoulish humour. (Ceefax) (248333)
6.25 Def II: D Energy (393482) **6.55 Les Lives** (151684)
7.00 CHOICE **Newman and Baddiel on the Road to Wembley** (3684)
7.30 Horizon: Look Who's Talking. America's chimpanzee language labs (r). (Ceefax) (19394)
8.30 FILM: What Price Victory? (1988) starring Mac Davis and Robert Culp. Drama about the ruthless recruiting methods of an American college football team. Directed by Kevin Connor. (Ceefax) (84110)
10.00 Inside Victor Lewis-Smith. Last in the hospital bedside humour series (s) (34400)
10.30 Newsnight with Peter Snow. (Ceefax) (321400)



Kirk Douglas on his career in film (11.15pm)

11.15 The Late Show. Kirk Douglas comes face to face with Jeremy Isaacs (s) (554416)
11.55 Weather (742232)
12.00 FILM: Isle of the Dead (1945, b/w). Horror movie starring Boris Karloff, directed by Mark Robson (8984801). Ends at **1.15am**

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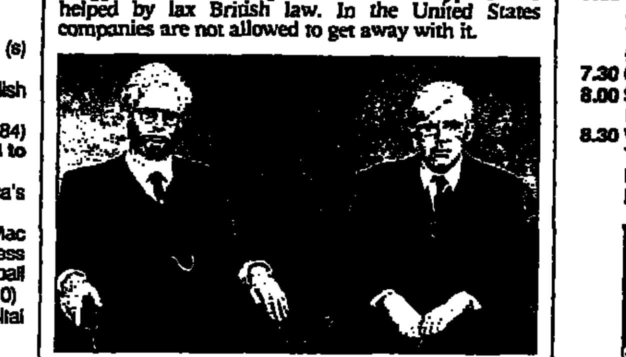
CHOICE

Cutting Edge: Royal Treatment
Channel 4, 9.00pm

Gartnavel Royal, Glasgow's biggest psychiatric hospital, marked its 150th anniversary in May with a visit from the Princess Royal. But celebrations have been marred by a spate of complaints from families who blame the hospital for the deaths of their loved ones. A woman hanged herself only seven yards from the nurses' duty room, after several previous suicide attempts. A schizophrenic was allowed out for a walk and was found dead in Loch Lomond. A man who talked regularly about killing himself was switched from a closed to an open ward, absconded and threw himself off a bridge. The hospital admits that some procedures were not complied with but says its rate of sudden death is not exceptional.

Watchdog Special: The Price of Vanity
BBC1, 7.30pm

The beauty business, according to Alice Beer's report, is a huge rip-off. Thousands, perhaps millions, of us are taken in by bogus claims and phoney cures. The prize for victim of the year must surely go to the chap who spent £18,000 on a treatment for baldness. After two years he was as bald as ever and had to re-mortgage his home to pay off his debts. It is better to go bald gracefully than swell a shyster's profits. Anti-ageing creams are another scam. Some of the most reputable names in the business are accused by a consultant dermatologist of making claims that are exaggerated, misleading or untrue. Their hyperbole is helped by lax British law. In the United States companies are not allowed to get away with it.



Sketch of a comedy act on tour (BBC2, 7.00pm)

Newman and Baddiel — The Road to Wembley
BBC2, 7.00pm

Comedians Rob Newman and David Baddiel attract an unexpected pop star following as they take their act round Britain and Ireland. The tour starts modestly, when they perform before just 120 people in an arts centre in Norwich. But before long they are being besieged by autograph hunters and hordes of screaming girls. The film follows the progress of their tour bus (which gets hilariously lost in Dublin), and captures them backstage before and after performances. It also records the reactions of audiences to new material being tried out for the pair's television series. The climax of the tour is at Wembley Arena, where Newman and Baddiel make history as the first comedy act to play that vast venue.

A Woman's Guide to Adultery
ITV, 9.00pm

The final episode of the infidelity saga brings together all the leading characters for a party. Since lovers and mistresses are there as well as husbands and wives, it is a highly charged occasion. You begin to think what Harold Pinter might have done with it, with his terse, incisive dialogue and big pauses. Unfortunately the series was not written by Pinter. Instead of Pinteresque tension we get clichés. We even get quotations from Hollywood films: "Fasten your seatbelts, it's going to be a bumpy ride." As for adultery, this is portrayed as something that everyone does, so what is the fuss? Screaming Lord Sutch makes a guest appearance as a by-election candidate. Although this is fiction, he still loses his deposit.

Peter Waymark

ITV LONDON

6.00 GMTV. Early morning news and entertainment with Michael Wilson, Lorraine Kelly and Eamonn Holmes (751394) **9.00 Top of the Morning**. Family magazine (9000684)
9.25 Supermarket Sweep. Game show set in a supermarket (s) (9003771) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (3868955)
10.00 The Time ... The Place ... Topical discussion series (s) (7445874)
10.35 This Morning. Weekday magazine series (15171874) **12.20 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (9115226)
12.30 News (Teletext) and weather (2008771)
12.55 Coronation Street (r). (Teletext) (2189690) **1.25 Home and Away**. Australian family drama. (Teletext) (26542139) **1.55 A Country Practice**. Medical drama (s) (73065936)
2.20 Capital Woman. Anneka Rice and Stephen Gardner investigate Christmas celebrations (s) (17874226) **2.50 The Young Doctors**. Australian hospital drama series (5945690)
3.20 ITN News headlines (9969416) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (9968787)
3.30 Tots TV (s) (3540936) **3.40 Wizadora** (1170394) **3.50 Wowser** (r) (1272706) **4.00 Sooty & Co** with Matthew Corbett (s) (7528874) **4.25 Tiny Toon Adventures** (8621752) **4.50 How 2**. Last in the fun and facts series (1780706)
5.10 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (4633918)
5.40 News (Teletext) and weather (328348)
6.00 London Tonight. (Teletext) (56110)
7.00 Wish You Were Here ..? Judith Chalmers cycles around County Galway and Victoria Studd samples the Philippine island of Cebu. Plus, a City Break guide to Berlin. (Teletext) (s) (9510)
7.30 Coronation Street. (Teletext) (348)
8.00 Strike It Lucky. Game show hosted by the manic Michael Barrymore. (Teletext) (9058)
8.30 World In Action: The Club That Liked to Say Yes. An investigation into the financial controls on Britain's football industry, focusing on FA Carling Premiership club Tottenham Hotspur (s) (5665)



Smiling through the infidelity saga (9.00pm)

9.00 CHOICE **A Woman's Guide To Adultery**. (Teletext) (s) (1503)
10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (38226) **10.30 London Tonight** (Teletext) and weather (467139)
10.40 FILM: Bay Coven (1987) starring Tim Matheson and Pamela Sue Martin. Supernatural thriller about a young Boston couple who buy an old Massachusetts seaside house in a community of devil worshippers. Directed by Carl Schenkel (88810110)
12.30am The Beat. Music and movie magazine (s) (57801)
1.30 60 Minutes. Current affairs (1730172)
2.20 Nite Bites. Meat pies and Somerset apple cake (s) (5815172)
2.30 Sport AM featuring the world powerboat championship (26022)
3.30 Videofashion. Includes an interview with Vivienne Westwood (74066)
4.00 Hollywood Report (r) (s) (95559)
4.30 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema. American film reviews (r) (79462)
5.00 Riviera. French drama serial (42820)
5.30 ITN Morning News (40801). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.30 Ulysses 31. Animated science fiction adventures (r) (99232)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (31752)
9.00 You Bet Your Life. American game show hosted by Bill Cosby (r) (s) (11503)
9.30 Anne of Green Gables – The Sequel. The final part of the drama. Anne has made a success of her teaching job but yearns to return to Avonlea. Starring Megan Follows and Wendy Hiller (r) (28884232)
11.50 Bigger Is Better. Animation by Derek Phillips (6538431)
12.00 Right To Reply. A repeat of Saturday's programme which included criticism of C4's *The Word* and BBC's *Living Soap*. (Teletext) (s) (35139)
12.30 Sesame Street. Early learning entertainment. The guests are En Vogue (61787) **1.30 Bobobobs**. Animated environmental adventures in outer space (r) (41232)
2.00 Film: Enchantment (1948, b/w) starring David Niven and Evelyn Keyes. A romantic tear-jerker about an elderly general who relives the memory of a 50-year love affair as he observes the problems of the heart being suffered by his grand-niece. Directed by Irving Reis (946232)
3.50 Tebaldo's Airs: Le Trouvere. Operatic animation (7444868)
3.55 Plant Life. A repeat of the final programme of the series, which focused on wild gardens (r). (Teletext) (5036329)
4.30 Fifteen To One. Fast-moving general knowledge knock-out quiz. The question-master is William G. Stewart. (Teletext) (s) (961)
5.00 The Late Late Show. Dublin's topical chat and music show hosted by Gay Byrne (s) (7023)
6.00 Batman. The caped crusader and Robin are led a merry dance by False Face and Blaze (226)
6.30 The Wonder Years. American comedy series about teenage life. Starring Fred Savage (r). (Teletext) (706)
7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (640139)
7.50 Refugee Story. To launch a brief return to this summer's *Bloody Bosnia* season, a look at three refugees to see how they are faring. This evening, Rada Kovacevic, working as a cleaner in London, meets her brother who is on a visit from New York. (Teletext) (373619)



Anna Friel and Nicola Stephenson (8.00pm)

8.00 Brookside. Men trouble drives Beth (Anna Friel) and Margaret (Nicola Stephenson) closer together. (Teletext) (s) (7400)
8.30 Desmond's. Comedy series set in a Peckham, south London, barber's. (Teletext) (s) (9435)
9.00 CHOICE **Cutting Edge: Royal Treatment**. (Teletext) (s) (9145)
10.00 Homicide: Life on the Street. An Emmy award-winning episode of the Baltimore-based detective drama series. (Teletext) (s) (2232)
11.00 The American Football Big Match. On offer are Buffalo Bills v Philadelphia Eagles, LA Rams v New Orleans Saints and Dallas Cowboys v Minnesota Vikings (529503)
12.20am Evening Shade. Small-town America comedy series starring Burt Reynolds (r) (s) (6248733)
12.50 Let the Blood Run Free. Australian black comedy set in a chaotic hospital (r). (Teletext) (s) (9779004). Ends at **1.20**

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and **MW. 4.00am** Bruno Brookes (**FM** only) **7.00** Mark Goodier **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.30pm** Newsbeat **12.45** Jakki Brambles, live from the Clothes Show at the NEC, Birmingham **3.00** Steve Wright in the Afternoon **6.00** News '93 **6.30** Evening Session **9.00** Windbags **9.30** Glitter and Twisted: Noddy Holder recalls the 1970s **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **12.00-4.00am** Lynn Parsons (**FM** only)

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **5.00am** Sarah Kennedy **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.05** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Gloria Hunniford **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Hubert Gregg says Thanks for the Memory **7.30** Alan Dell with Dance Band Days, and at **8.00** Big Band Era **8.30** Big Band Special **9.00** Humphrey Lyttelton with the Best of Jazz **10.00** A Swing Affair: Big Band vocal classics **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Digby Fairweather with Jazz Notes **1.00** Steve Madden with Night Ride **3.00-5.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5

6.00am World Service **6.30** Morning Edition **9.00** Dilemmas **10.25** Johnnie Walker with the AM Alternative **12.30pm** More Nosh, Less Dosh **1.00** News and Sport **1.10** The Crunch with Liz Kershaw **2.30** BFBS Worldwide **4.05** John Inverdale's Drive-in **6.30** The Green Hornet **7.15** Crazy Christmas, by Jeanne Betancourt. Read by Kimberly Bevers (2/4) **7.30** Champion Sport: The 1985 European Cup Final between Everton and Rapid Vienna, including at **8.00** the Premiership match between Norwich and Leeds **10.10** Fabulous! **12.00-12.10am** News. Sport

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **GMT. 4.30am** BBC English **4.45** News and Press Review in German **5.00** Morgenmagazin. Tips für Touristen **5.30** Europe Today **6.00** News **6.15** The Learning World **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** Newsdesk **7.30** The Divine Supermarket **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Health Matters **8.30** Anything Goes **9.00** News **9.05** World Business Report **9.15** Images of Britain **9.30** Andy Kershaw's World of Music **9.45** Sports Roundup **10.00** News **10.01** Heritage **10.30** The Vintage Chart Show **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **Noon** News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** Hoax **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** Newshour **2.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Off the Shelf: *Vintage Thurber* **2.45** The Multitrack Sessions **3.00** News **3.15** The Greatest Story Ever Told **4.00** News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Heute Aktuell **5.00** News **5.05** World Business Report **5.15** BBC English **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.00** Nachrichten **7.05** Kaleidoskop **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The World Today **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** Newshour **10.00** News **10.15** Meridian **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** News **11.05** World Business Report **11.15** On Screen **11.30** Multitrack 1 **Midnight** Newsdesk **12.30am** Quote, Unquote **1.00** News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** Folk Routes **1.45** Health Matters **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** Hoax **3.00** News **3.15** Sports Roundup **3.30** John Peel **4.00** News **4.15** Health Matters

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto: Weber (Clarinet Concerto No 1 in F minor) **3.00** Petroc Trelawny **6.00** Margaret Howard **7.00** Close Encounters of a Musical Kind **8.00** Evening Concert. Strauss (Four Last Songs); Shostakovich (Symphony No 10 in E minor) **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00-6.00am** André Leon

VIRGIN 1215

6.00am Russ and Jono **10.00** Richard Skinner **1.00pm** Kevin Greening **4.00** Tommy Vance **7.00** Mitch Johnson **10.00** Nick Abbot **2.00am** Paul Coyle

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Anglia News (3868955) **12.20pm-12.30** Anglia News (9115226) **2.20-2.50** The Good Yarn Show (17874226) **3.25-3.30** Anglia News (9968787) **5.10-5.40** Swot Or Wot? (4633918) **6.00** Home And Away (115077) **6.25-7.00** Anglia News and Weather (977400) **10.30** Anglia News And Weather (467139) **10.40** Marquee (434313) **11.40** Crime Story (826665) **12.35am** Tropical Heat (2449337) **1.35** Sport AM (9623646) **2.35** Donahue (4732424) **3.20** The Beat (7549462) **4.20** Phenomena (48723066) **4.30** Riviera (40369171) **4.55-5.30** Jobfinder (7565269)

CENTRAL
As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Central News (3868955) **12.20pm-12.30** Central News (9115226) **1.55** Shortland Street (73065936) **2.20** Farmhouse Kitchen (17874226) **2.50-3.20** A Country Practice (5945690) **3.25-3.30** Central News (9968787) **5.10-5.40** It's A Living (4633918) **6.00** Home And Away (115077) **6.25-7.00** Central News (977400) **10.30** Central News (467139) **10.40** The Twilight Zone (654139) **11.10** Pro-Box Classics (390145) **12.10am** Sail The World (6225882) **12.40** Coach (9781849) **1.10** Stephen King's World Of Horror (795424) **2.55** Sport AM (3020795) **3.55** Jobfinder (5671191) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (8888085)

HTV WEST
As London except: 2.20-2.50 Yan Can Cook (17874226) **3.25-3.30** HTV News (9968787) **6.00-7.00** HTV News (58110) **10.30** HTV News & Weather (467139) **10.40** Police 25 (654139) **11.10** Married With Children (826868) **11.40** The War Of The Worlds (826665) **12.35am** Tropical Heat (2449337) **1.35** Sport AM (9623646) **2.35** Donahue (4732424) **3.20** The Beat (7549462) **4.20** Phenomena (48723066) **4.30** Riviera (40369171) **4.55-5.30** Jobfinder (7565269)

HTV WALES
As HTV WEST except: 6.00 Wales At Six (884) **6.30-7.00** Primetime (936) **10.30** HTV Wales News & Weather (467139) **10.40** The Bardic Steamroller (314110) **11.25-11.40** World Cup Hall Of Fame (531313)

MERIDIAN
As London except: 2.20 Houseparty (17874226) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (5945690) **3.25-3.30** Meridian News & Weather (9968787) **5.37-5.40** Three Minutes: Making It Happen (833961) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (684) **6.30-7.00** Beside The Seaside (936) **10.30-10.40** Meridian News & Weather (467139) **2.30am-3.30** Sport A.M. (26022) **5.00-5.30** Freescreen

TYNE TEES
As London except: 2.20 Wish You Were Here..? (17956874) **2.45-2.50** Help Yourself (8522936) **3.25-3.30** Tyne Tees News (9968787) **5.55** Tyne Tees News (703232) **6.30-7.00** Crimestoppers Special (936) **10.30** Tyne Tees News (467139) **10.40** Young Jazz Player Of The Year (314110) **11.25** Prisoner: Cell Block H (586400) **12.20am** Sail The World (6240191) **12.50** Film: To Each His Own Hell (414646) **2.45** Entertainment U.K. (693424) **3.45** ITV Chart Show (1052337) **4.40-5.30** Jobfinder

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 12.20pm-12.30 Westcountry Latest (9115226) **1.55** The Young Doctors (20056868) **2.25** Gardening Time (17873597) **2.55-3.20** A Country Practice (1553077) **3.25-3.30** Westcountry Latest (9968787) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (56110) **10.30** Westcountry Latest (467139) **10.40** Westcountry Focus: Powergame (654139) **11.10** The Trials Of Rosie O'Neill (661145) **12.05am** Coach (6245646) **12.30** My Story (6844199) **12.35** Tropical Heat (2449337) **1.35** Sport AM (9623646) **2.35** Donahue (4732424) **3.20** The Beat (7549462) **4.20** Phenomena (48723066) **4.30** Riviera (40369171) **4.55-5.30** Jobfinder (7565269)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Calendar News (3868955) **12.20pm-12.30** Calendar News (9115226) **2.20** Wish You Were Here..? (17956874) **2.45-2.50** Help Yourself (8522936) **3.25-3.30** Calendar News (9968787) **5.55** Calendar News (703232) **6.30-7.00** Against All Odds (936) **10.30** Calendar News (467139) **10.40** Young Jazz Player Of The Year (314110) **11.25** Prisoner: Cell Block H (586400) **12.20am** Sail The World (6240191) **12.50** Film: To Each His Own Hell (414646) **2.45** Entertainment U.K. (693424) **3.45** ITV Chart Show (1052337) **4.40-5.30** Jobfinder (2416801)

S4C
Starts: 7.00am The Big Breakfast (31752) **9.00** You Bet Your Life (11503) **9.30** Anne Of Green Gables - The Sequel (28884232) **11.50** Bigger Is Better (6538431) **12.00pm** Right To Reply (35139) **12.30** Slot Meithrin (42961) **1.00** Roseanne (41139) **1.30** Hangin' With Mr Cooper (41232) **2.00** Film: Buffalo Bill (216503) **3.40** The Three Stooges (1259690) **4.00** Slot 23 (8787) **5.00** Batman (1416) **5.30** Fifteen To One (313) **6.00** Newyddion (298874) **6.20** Cwlwm Serch (379139) **6.25** Heno (975042) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (8752) **7.30** Y Byd Ar Bedwar (690) **8.00** Natur Wyllt (7400) **8.30** Newyddion (9435) **9.00** Sgorio (9145) **10.00** Brookside (36868) **10.30** Cheers (18416) **11.00** American Football (706110) **12.15am** Witness

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
6.00am The DJ Kat Show (83081787) **8.40** Lamb Chops Play-a-Long (7796023) **9.10** Cartoons (4557145) **9.30** Card Sharks (9122416) **9.55** Concentration (9130435) **10.25** Dynamo Duck (7570139) **10.30** Love at First Sight (77139) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (87955) **12.00** The Urban Peasant (64619) **12.30pm** Paradise Beach (93665) **1.00** Barnaby Jones (94348) **2.00** Seventh Avenue (41665) **3.00** Another World (6490665) **3.45** The DJ Kat Show (5790503) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (8023) **6.00** Games World (2874) **6.30** Paradise Beach (4446) **7.00** Rescue (2892) **7.30** Growing Pains (9110) **8.00** Crossings: Final part of Danielle Steel's best-selling novel (35665) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (47400) **11.00** The Untouchables (71348) **12.00** The Streets of San Francisco (60004) **1.00am** Night Court (22153) **1.30-2.00** Maniac Mansion (76462)

SKY NEWS
News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise Europe (51313) **9.30** Roving Report (73619) **10.30** The Book Show (59597) **11.30** Japan Business Today (79139) **12.30pm** News and Business Report (53313) **1.30** CBS News (54042) **2.30** Parliament Live (96752) **4.30** News and Business Report (8023) **5.00** Live at Five (981665) **7.30** Special Report (7752) **9.30** Talkback (23941) **11.30** CBS News (60771) **12.30am** ABC News (93627) **1.30** Special Report (89578) **2.30** Travel Destinations (78240) **3.30** Talkback (80085) **4.30** Special (17578) **5.30-6.00** CBS News (95375)

SKY MOVIES
6.00am Showcase (5377961)
10.00 Agatha (1979). Agatha Christie goes missing for 11 days (97481)
12.00 Jack and the Beanstalk (1952): Starring Abbott and Costello (55868)
2.00pm The Great Santini (1979): A war hero (Robert Duvall) returns home (401619)
4.00 The Harlem Globetrotters on Gilligan's Island (1981): A scientist loses his shopping trolley (4955)
6.00 The Man in the Moon (1991): Touching 1950s coming-of-age drama, set in Louisiana. With Sam Waterston (21416)
8.00 Double X (1991): British thriller starring Norman Wisdom as a petty crook trying to leave the business (23754619)
9.40 UK Top Ten (864752)
10.00 Rush (1979). Narcotics agents battle against their own drug addictions. With Jason Patric, Jennifer Jason Leigh (92085)
12.00 Time After Time (1979). Time-travelling Malcolm McDowell trys to prevent his girlfriend becoming the latest victim of Jack the Ripper (706004)
1.55am Angel Eyes: Erotic drama (596733)
3.30 It's Alive III: Island of the Alive (1985): A father foolishly decides to visit his killer mutant baby on a monster island (56530). Ends at **5.00**

SKY MOVIES GOLD
6.00pm American Graffiti (1973). Four young friends celebrate their last night in their home town. With Richard Dreyfuss (18936)
8.00 National Lampoon's Animal House (1978): Madcap campus comedy starring Tim Matheson and John Belushi (13481)
10.00 Street Fighter (1975): James Coburn promotes roughneck street fighter Charles Bronson (43874). Ends at **11.35**

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.00am Reunion (1990): A Count returns to Germany to discover what became of his boyhood Jewish friend (25884)
8.00 Dot Goes to Hollywood: Children's kangaroo capers (36787)
10.00 D-Day: The Sixth of June (1956): A British and an American soldier reflect on their love for the same woman (95023)
12.00 On an Island With You (1948, b/w): Swimming star Esther Williams falls in love while filming in Hawaii (46110)
2.00pm Raiders of the Seven Seas (1953): Swashbuckling pirate adventure (586874)
3.50 Dot Goes to Hollywood (as 10am) (2008077)
5.10 Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves (1991): Kevin Costner dons the green tights in this Hollywood epic (85495503)
7.30 Xposure: Film news (5348)
8.00 Dances With Wolves (1990). Kevin Costner again, this time playing a Union soldier at home with the Sioux (229961)
11.00 Fourth Story (1991): Detective Mark Harmon is hired to trace a woman's missing husband. With Mimi Rogers (916023)
12.35am False Identity (1990): Genevieve Bujold helps an amnesiac, Stacy Keach, to unravel his murky past (838601)
2.15 Manifesto (1988). Black comedy set in the Balkans. With Alfred Molina (691820)
3.55 Blood Moon (1990): Australian horror yarn about a serial killer stalking love-struck Catholic schoolgirls (645646). Ends at **5.35**

SKY SPORTS
7.00am Prime Bodies (22042) **7.30** Kick Boxing (24752) **8.30** World Sports (26394) **9.00** Prime Bodies (13874) **9.30** High Five (64042) **10.00** Sportraits (75690) **10.30** Tennis: Grand Slam Cup (88824) **12.30pm** Football (96435) **2.30** Golf: US PGA Seniors (41868) **4.30** Fishing the West (1752) **5.00** Snowboarding (2706) **5.30** Trucks and Tractor Power (8232) **6.00** Soccer News (281619) **6.15** WWF Challenge (313313) **7.00** Football: Norwich City v Leeds (11269077) **10.15** Soccer News (211874) **10.30** The Football Quiz (10787) **11.00** Superbouts (73990) **12.00-2.00am** Football (as 7pm) (20646)

EUROSPORT
7.30am Step Aerobics (23495) **8.00** Biathlon World Cup (83087) **9.00** Alpine Skiing Highlights (87435) **11.00** Ski Jumping: World Cup (12665) **12.00** Motorsport (45961) **1.00pm** Car Racing (58481) **2.00** Tundra Rally (78787) **3.00** Free Style Skiing: World Cup (41706) **4.00** Eurofun (7336) **4.30** Ski Jumping: World Cup (57394) **5.30** Alpine Skiing Highlights (57868) **6.30** Eurosport News (8665) **7.00** Car Racing on Ice (71435) **8.00** Nascar Magazine (84955) **9.00** Boxing (77619) **10.00** Eurogoals (70706) **11.00** Wrestling: Women's World Championships (73918) **12.00-12.30am** Eurosport News (14424)

UK GOLD
7.00am GP (7030110) **7.30** Neighbours (7122145) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (2268329) **8.30** EastEnders (2185400) **9.00** The Bill (2176752) **9.30** Nanny (4716495) **10.30** Rockcliffe's Babies (9573597) **11.30** Rhoda (7400416) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (2269416) **12.30pm** Neighbours (8640503) **1.00** EastEnders (7039481) **1.30** The Bill (8549874) **2.00** Never Mind the Quality, Feel the Width (4010481) **2.30** Shelley (7318435) **3.00** Dallas (7404232) **4.00** Dynasty (7327139) **5.00** Blankety Blank (4107961) **5.30** Give Us a Clue (7216023) **6.00** Neighbours (7213936) **6.30** EastEnders (7300416) **7.00** Nanny (8436435) **8.00** Never Mind the Quality, Feel the Width (4103145) **8.30** Shelley (4019752) **9.00** Rockcliffe's Babies (8432619) **10.00** The Bill (2260145) **10.30** The Young Ones (2173665) **11.05** Top of the Pops (9673503) **11.45** Dr Who: The Genesis of the Daleks (1979503) **12.15am** FILM: Ringo and His Golden Pistol (1966): Adventures of a bounty hunter (7115356) **1.50** Video Bites (3552530) **2.30-7.00** Shopping at Night (50722714)

CHILDREN'S CHANNEL
6.00am RatKan II (582226) **9.00** Jack in the Box (54416) **11.00** Ratkan II (214313) **2.00pm** Iris the Happy Professor (72868) **3.00** RatKan II (2413) **3.30** Ovide and the Gang (9503) **4.00** The Charlie Brown and Snoopy Show (5110) **4.30-5.00** Emlyn's Moon (1394)

NICKELODEON
7.00am Dawn Patrol (20684) **7.30** Guts (12619) **8.00** Get the Picture (25665) **8.30** Wild Side (24936) **9.00** We All Have Tales (11416) **9.30** Fraggle Rock (62684) **10.00** Janosch's Dream (73232) **10.30** World of David the Gnome (37400) **11.00** Sharon, Lois and Bram's Elephant Show (42435) **11.30** Eureeka's Castle (93787) **12.30pm** We All Have Tales (68400) **1.00** World of David the Gnome (29955) **1.30** Wisdom of the Gnomes (65771) **2.00** Janosch's Dream (3868) **2.30** Junior Story Time (2059) **3.00** Kablooey (8503) **3.30** Out of Control (7503) **4.00** Fraggle Rock (3110) **4.30** Hey Dude (9394) **5.00** Clarissa Explains It All (5508) **5.30** Get the Picture (6874) **6.00** Guts (3787) **6.30-7.00** Welcome Freshmen (1139)

DISCOVERY
4.00pm Earthfile (7307329) **4.30** From Monkeys to Apes (7223313) **5.00** Big City Metro (4105509) **5.30** Go Fishing (7214665) **6.00** Only in Hollywood (8018435) **6.05** Beyond 2000 (4324752) **7.00** The Extremists (4029139) **7.30** Valhalla (7224042) **8.00** Discovery Wildside (8347597) **9.00** Terra X (7314665) **9.30** Pacifica (8555481) **10.00** K2: Triumph and Tragedy on the Savage Mountain (8433348) **11.00** Shadows in the Forest (7319110) **11.30-12.00** The Arabians (2005226)

BRAVO
12.00 Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman (2181684) **12.30pm** FILM: Jailhouse Rock (1957, b/w): Elvis Presley is behind bars (38729023) **2.15** FILM: Across the Bridge (1957, b/w): Rod Steiger is on the run in Mexico (6007684) **4.00** The Flying Nun (7221955) **4.30** My Three Sons (7227139) **5.00** The Beverly Hillbillies (4109329) **5.30** Donny And Marie (7314619) **6.00** I Spy (8843890) **7.00** Cannon (8421503) **8.00** FILM: Holiday Affair (1949, b/w): A young widow finds love again (2108526) **9.30** FILM: Jailhouse Rock (as 12.30pm) (7368348) **11.15** Art Linkletter (2630232) **11.30-12.00** The Twilight Zone (2092752)

UK LIVING
7.00am Jayne and Friends (5443619) **8.00** Fame, Fortune and Romance (5109333) **8.30** Living Daylights (3205348) **8.45** Yoga (3294503) **9.00** Divorce Court (3505954) **9.30** Hot Topics (8628435) **10.00** Health UK (3061139) **10.30** Living Extra (7105918) **11.00** On the House (4968226) **11.30** Delia Smith's Cookery Course 2 (4989955) **12.00** Practical Living (27649690) **12.15pm** Kilroy (1391435) **1.00** Crosswits (2342416) **1.30** Infatuation (8525394) **2.00** Days of Our Lives (3062668) **3.00** Agony Hour (4983771) **4.00** Crosswits (4874400) **4.30** Infatuation (8474464) **5.00** Jayne and Friends (6851706) **6.00** Dr Ruth (8670067) **6.30** Masterchef 1991 (4975459) **7.00** Agony Hour (3179067) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (6123987) **9.00** FILM: Sounds of Silence (1989): A boy has nightmare visions (3973464) **11.00** Infatuation (4076435) **11.30** The All New Dr Ruth Show (3050023) **12.00-1.00am** Days of Our Lives (5327627)

FAMILY CHANNEL
5.00pm The Wonder Years (2348) **5.30** Danger Bay (8874) **6.00** Big Brother Jake (5787) **6.30** Catchphrase (3139) **7.00** Trivial Pursuit (9684) **7.30** All Clued Up (2023) **8.00** Remington Steele (22139) **9.00** Neon Rider (10413) **10.00** WKRP in Cincinnati (69023) **10.30** The Bob Newhart Show (78771) **11.00** Newhart (78874) **11.30** Mary Tyler Moore (60023) **12.00-1.00am** Lou Grant (62646)

MTV
6.00am Wild Side (65042) **6.30** Red Hot Chili Peppers (55145) **7.00** Wild Side (94232) **8.30** En Vogue (56936) **9.00** VJ Ingo (56874) **11.00** Unplugged with Roxette (92110) **12.00** Greatest Hits (65503) **1.00pm** VJ Simone (50690) **3.00** Whitney Houston (2961) **3.30** Coca-Cola Report (6924503) **3.45** At the Movies (6929058) **4.00** News (5022110) **4.15** 3 from 1 (5118961) **4.30** The Grind (3752) **5.00** Hit List UK (54145) **7.00** Inxs Special (11077) **8.00** Music Non-Stop (24597) **9.00** Greatest Hits (10431) **10.00** Coca-Cola Report (108313) **10.15** At the Movies (108668) **10.30** News (369503) **10.45** 3 from 1 (364058) **11.00** Rock Block (45400) **1.00am** VJ Marijne (16511) **2.00-7.00** Night Videos (6079004)

TV ASIA
6.00am Persian Dawn (19329) **7.00** News in Gujarati, Bengali and Punjabi (99023) **7.30** Asian Morning (51874) **9.00** Hisaar (49058) **10.00** Pakistani FILM (305619) **1.00pm** Mustatain (98394) **1.30** Hindi FILM: Mandi (205145) **4.30** Kiddie Time (1348) **5.00-6.00** Dedications (5481) **7.00** Face to Face (7684) **8.00** English News (963906) **8.15** Hindi FILM: Mera Jawab. With Jackie Shroff (59337139) **11.15** Cheena Mook (782868) **12.05am** Five Past Midnight (5161356) **1.35-6.00** Sight and Sound (18269207)

TNT
Tonight's Theme: I'll Take Romance
7.00pm Forever Darling (1956). A guardian angel steps in to resolve the marital problems of Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz. James Mason wears the wings (33295706)
8.45 Mrs Parkington (1944, b/w): The life and loves of society woman Greer Garson at the turn of the century (67051313)
11.05 Rhapsody (1954): Elizabeth Taylor is torn between a pianist and a violinist. With Vittorio Gassman, John Ericson (52629329)
1.20am Smilin' Through (1932, b/w): A woman is killed on her wedding day. Starring Norma Shearer, Fredric March and Leslie Howard (28761397)
3.15 Always in My Heart (1942, b/w): A convict returns home. With Walter Huston (94229240). Ends at **4.45**

CNN
Twenty-four hour news

CMT
Country music from midnight to 4pm

QVC
Home shopping channel

RADIO 3

6.55am Weather 7.00 On Air: Andrew McGregor presents Handel (Trio Sonata in G, Op 5 No 4); Brahms (Capriccio in D minor; Intermezzo in A minor, Fantasias, Op 116); Britten (Simple Symphony); Strauss (Festival Prelude, Op 61); Tchaikovsky (Last Night; To Forget So Soon); Vivaldi (Violin Concerto in E, Il Riposo, RV270)
9.00 An Advent Calendar, introduced by Hugh Keyte. Colchester Insitute Choir under William Tamblyn performs Gifford (Rejoice, ye tenants of the earth); Ninnis (Sound, sound your instruments of joy!)
9.10 Composer of the Week: Elliott Carter, in conversation with Misha Donat. Holiday Overture, Voyage, A Celebration of Some 100 x 150 Notes; Remembrance; Piano Sonata
10.15 Musical Encounters: Edward Blakeman presents Haydn (Symphony No 100 in G, Military); Reicha (Fugues: No 6, 16 and 14); Smetana (Polka No 1), Frank Martin (Trois chants de Noël); Mozart (Divertimento in E flat, K252); Salieri (Music for a Temple of the Night); Bartók (Piano Concerto No 3)
12.00 Strange Adventure: The Making of the Savoy Operas: The first of two programmes exploring the works of Gilbert and Sullivan. The partnership that created the Savoy Operas has seemed a national institution, but Geoffrey Smith suggests that the differences between the two men forged their successes
1.00pm News 1.05 BBC Lunchtime Concert, live from St John's, Smith Square, London. Sophie Rolland, cello, and Marc-André Hamelin, piano, perform Grieg (Cello Sonata in A minor, Op 36); Barber (Cello Sonata, Op 6)
2.00 The BBC Orchestras: BBC Philharmonic under Yan Pascal Tortelier performs Maxwell Davies (An Orkney Wedding with Sunrise: George McIlwham, bagpipes); Brahms (Violin Concerto in D: Maxim Vengarov); Tchaikovsky (Symphony No 4 in F minor)
3.45 Byrd Organ Music: The second of three programmes featuring Paul Nicholson playing Byrd's keyboard music on the 1653 Dallam organ in Brittany
4.30 Time and Silence: Michael Urbaniak, Brian Morton explores jazz in Poland (4/6)
5.00 In Tune: Handel (Lucky Omens Bless Our Rites, Semele); Smetana (Overture, The Secret); Brahms (Romanze; String Quartet, Op 51, No 1); Isaac (A la Bataglia)
7.30 Prometeo, by Luigi Nono. Performed by the Freiburg Dutch Radio Chamber Choir and Orchestra under Ingo Metzmacher
10.10 History Now and Then: See Choice
10.30 Two Golden Flutes: James Dower and Ransom Wilson play C.P.E. Bach's Sonata in E, Wq162. With John Lenehan, harpsichord
10.45 Mixing It: Ure Müllrich talks about Dissidenten's work with north African and Indian musicians
11.30 Music Restored: The Flute at Court. Nancy Hadden presents Airs de cour, Trio in C, Courante and Sarabande, Harpsichord Suite No 1 in D minor and Suite in G minor
12.30am News 12.35-12.45 An Advent Calendar (as 9am)

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.45** Business News **6.55** Weather **7.25, 8.25** Sports News **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.35** The Week on 4
8.40 All Sportsmen Are Heroes: The writer Tom McNab reflects on sportsmen who inspired him to leave the warmth of his home for the cold of the sportsground **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Start the Week, with Melvyn Bragg
10.00-10.30 The Mating Game (**FM** only): Lionel Kelleway presents the natural history quiz
10.00 News; Daily Service (**LW** only) from Christ Church, Didsbury
10.15 The Bible (**LW** only): Amos. Art Malik reads the first of two selections from the Authorised Version (r)
10.30 Woman's Hour: Jenni Murray talks to Carol Ann Duffy, winner of the Whitbread Poetry Award and the Forward Poetry Prize. Serial: *The Very Dead of Winter*, by Mary Hocking. Read by Maureen O'Brien (6/10). Incl **11.00 News**
11.30 Money Box Live: 071-580 4444, with Vincent Duggleby. Lines open from 10am
12.00 News; You and Yours, with John Howard
12.25pm My Music: Steve Race hosts the musical panel game with John Amis, Frank Muir, Ian Wallace and Denis Norden **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with James Naughtie
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Quicksilver, by James Douglas. Tension mounts when a multinational company opens a mercury soap plant in Donegal. With David Herlihy and Marcella Riordan
3.30 Conversation Piece: Sue MacGregor meets Alec Dickson, founder of both Voluntary Service Overseas and Community Service Volunteers
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope looks at this year's books about music, and celebrates the 100th anniversary of Dvořák's New World Symphony
4.45 Short Story: Terms of Acceptance. Written and read by Henry Livings
5.00 PM with John Sopel and Huw Edwards **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue: Humphrey Lyttelton chairs the antidote to panel games. With Colin Sell at the piano. Last in the series (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 The Food Programme, with Derek Cooper (r)
7.45 The Monday Play: Joking Apart. See Choice (r)
9.15 Kaleidoscope (r)
9.45 The Financial World Tonight, with Roger White **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, presented by Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Bel Ami, by Guy de Maupassant. The tale of a man's corrupt rise through society. Read by Alex Jennings (1/12)
11.00 You Heard It Here First: Second Thoughts, by Jan Etherington and Gavin Petrie. With James Bolam and Lynda Bellingham (r)
11.30 Today in Parliament
12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (**LW** only)

CHOICE

Joking Apart. *Radio 4, 7.45pm.*

Alan Ayckbourn's grey comedy is a benevolent castigation of inveterate do-gooders. Richard and Anthea (Malcolm Raeburn and Pam Ferris) are the well-meaning couple who do more harm than good. It is as if the bull that devastated the china shop had no idea what had caused the chaos. The action covers 12 years, during which time Ayckbourn's all-too-fallible puppets form a circular queue waiting for their strings to be pulled by a master puppeteer. Michael Fox's production has already been heard on Radio 3.

History Now and Then. *Radio 3, 10.10pm.*

Programme one of this discussion series crackles with disagreement. Immediately challenged is chairman Roy Porter's opening assertion that there is a dearth of evidence to encourage history to be told from the "bottom" (the common man) instead of from the "top" (kings and politicians). Raphael Samuel, tutor in history at Ruskin College, Oxford, reminds him that an examination of the faeces of a 17th-century provost of Oriel College revealed that he had had mulberry tart for dessert.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m; FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2:** FM 88-90.2. **RADIO 3:** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4:** 198kHz/1515m; FM 92.4-94.6. **RADIO 5:** 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. **LBC:** 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. **CAPITAL:** 1548kHz/194m; FM 95.8. **GLR:** FM 94.9; **WORLD SERVICE:** MW 648kHz/463m. **CLASSIC FM:** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN:** MW 1215, 1197, 1242 kHz.

COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND GILLIAN MAXEY

WEEK AHEAD 33

MORE POWERFUL PAYOUTS FROM ELECTRICITY FIRMS

BUSINESS

GRAHAM SEARJEANT 34

MICHAEL HESELTINE SHOULD NOT BETRAY GAS INVESTORS

MONDAY DECEMBER 13 1993

BUSINESS EDITOR ROBERT BALLANTYNE

Granada hits out at LWT triple alliance

BY CARL MORTISHED

☐ The £600 million takeover battle for LWT is evoking widespread manoeuvring between unattached ITV contractors worried about their future

GRANADA Group, which made a £600 million takeover bid for London Weekend Television last week, has strongly attacked a mooted plan for LWT Holdings to link instead with Yorkshire-Tyne Tees, the troubled North East contractor.

The war of words intensified yesterday amid further reports that LWT, which owns London Weekend Television, is trying to set up a tripartite alliance with Yorkshire-Tyne Tees and Anglia to counter Granada's bid.

Granada, the producer of *Coronation Street*, poured cold water on the potential three-way arrangement, but said that it proved Granada's own view that in future TV companies will need size to compete. "It is something cobbled together by desperate men," said the company yesterday.

LWT, whose London-based TV franchise produces *Blind Date*, would not rule out a bid for YTT but pointed to other options, including the possibility of an overseas investor.

The company said: "There are a wide variety of options available. The main objective is to keep LWT independent. We would not contemplate a poison pill defence."

Gerry Robinson, chairman of Granada, said he would be surprised if LWT went ahead with a bid for Yorkshire-Tyne Tees, due to the latter's financial difficulties. The company, in which LWT already has a 14 per cent stake, is paying a large proportion of its advertising revenue to the Government because of its high bid for the Yorkshire franchise.

Granada said a merged LWT/Yorkshire would have advertising revenue of £281 million but payments to the Government would swallow up 25.5 per cent of the income. That compares with a combined £325 million of revenue for Granada/LWT, of which only 16.1 per cent would be payable to the Government.

Mr Robinson poured scorn on the idea of an outsider bidding for LWT. He said: "The idea that this is a cheap bid at 30 times earnings is pretty incredible. It is very hard to make LWT work on its own at this price."

Sir Christopher Bland, LWT chairman, said he would not deny or assert the possibility of an offer for YTT and would not comment on figures relating to a theoretical bid: "All I would say is we represent Yorkshire and account for 22 per cent of the ITV network advertising. Granada needs us more than we need them."

LWT has an agreement with Yorkshire-Tyne Tees to sell advertising which, according to Sir Christopher, puts them in second place in the network advertising stakes, while Granada is well behind at 10.9 per cent. "If you are selling for 11 per cent of the system, you are in danger of being marginalised," he added.

Widespread weekend press reports suggested that LWT would bid for Yorkshire-Tyne Tees. At the same time, LWT would form an alliance with Anglia, which itself would take over the smaller Tyne Tees franchise. Under the new ownership rules, no TV company can own more than two franchises and a disposal of the Tyne Tees franchise is key to a successful bid by LWT for Yorkshire. Such a move would require shareholder approval.

The speculation underlines frenzy in the industry, in which four companies are already involved in bids and most others fear they could be picked off by competitors or foreign groups or be put under increasing financial pressure by bigger groups.

Reporting this week, page 33



In eight months, Gary Smith, a former City investment manager, has built Winchester from scratch into a company worth £4.7 million

Minford predicts further rate cuts

BY NEIL BENNETT

ONE of the Seven Wise Men advising the Treasury is predicting another half-point cut in interest rates before Christmas and further cuts in the new year that could reduce the base rate to 4 per cent by the spring.

Professor Patrick Minford, the head of Liverpool University's economics and accounting department, says Kenneth Clarke's Budget pledge to cut borrowing and public spending has removed an obstacle to lower rates.

Writing in the Liverpool Research Group's quarterly bulletin, he says: "For the present in the UK, as in the rest of Europe, the need is to cut interest rates. The 0.5 per cent cut before the Budget was not sufficient: another should come before Christmas with another 0.5 to 1 per cent early in the New Year."

He argues that cuts would increase domestic demand and lower the pound's value, making British goods more competitive abroad.

Professor Minford says the Chancellor followed the Wise Men's advice in his Budget, by imposing delayed tax increases and making big cuts in spending.

The chances of a pre-Christmas rate cut should be strengthened on Wednesday by publication of the retail price index for November. Forecasters expect that low food prices will mean a headline inflation rate as low as, or even lower than, last month's 1.4 per cent. There should be an even steeper fall in the underlying inflation rate.

Love is... here for Christmas

BY OUR CITY STAFF

LOVE is coming to the stock market in time for Christmas. Today sees the launch of the offer for shares in Winchester Multimedia, a recently formed film and cartoon company that owns the worldwide merchandising rights to the "Love is..." characters. Winchester hopes to raise £1.34 million by issuing 2.5 million shares at 60p each. The money will be used to develop film and TV projects.

Winchester was founded in April by Gary Smith only a few days after he resigned as chief executive of Storm Group, the animation company. Mr Smith, a former City investment manager, walked out after a row with the chairman because he wanted to use the company's resources to continue funding new animation projects.

In eight months he has built Winchester from scratch into a company worth £4.7 million at flotation, though it has no financial record. The shares will not be fully quoted but will trade under the Stock Exchange's rule 535.2, allowing matched bargains.

Major attacked over EC water decision

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY AND JAMES LANDALE IN BRUSSELS

A DECISION at the EC summit to hand back responsibility for water quality standards to member states has caused a dispute between the Government and the Labour party, environmental groups and Brussels and created confusion in the water industry.

Tim Yeo, the environment minister, insisted there would be no lowering of standards, only lower costs for consumers. But Chris Smith, his Labour shadow, called the summit decision a disaster for Britain's environment. "The prime minister seems to think that the British people are perfectly happy with dirty beaches and unclean water," he said. "We are not."

On BBC Radio Four's *World This Weekend* programme, Mr Yeo said each member state would determine its own standards. He added: "I see it as part of my job to protect consumers against the extraordinary demands of some of the green lobbies, who have the Brussels bureaucrats totally in their power and who are pressing ahead with demands for improvement which have no scientific or medical basis."

In Brussels, EC officials insisted that there was no question of abandoning bathing and drinking water standards. They would merely be "simplified". A senior commission official said: "We are not going to repeal or weaken the requirements."

Officials said subsidiarity would allow member states more flexibility in applying quality standards but they could not alter the standards themselves. Yannis Paleokrassas, the environment commissioner, said he could not believe member states would want to "go against progress in such vital areas as water".

Ofwat, the British water industry's financial regulator, argues that the EC directive on sewage effluent and beach pollution should be phased in over ten years rather than five. It has also attacked EC measures that would reduce pesticide residues and bacteria in drinking water to what many scientists believe are unnecessarily low levels. Ofwat estimates that EC directives on water quality and waste water would add £100 to the average family bill.

The waste water directive does not feature on a list of directives that the summit said could be changed or simplified and Ofwat was uncertain last night of the implications of the subsidiarity decision. It could merely rule out the most expensive "green" measures. However, longer phasing of effluent and beach improvements might enable Ofwat to keep prices down without exerting undue pressure on companies' finances.

Louise Ellman, leader of Lancashire County Council, condemned the Government for pressing the EC to abandon the directives. She said the council would be seeking a commitment from North-West Water that promises made to clean up Lancashire's coastal waters would be honoured.

Catalogue shops 'face Costco risk'

BY OUR CITY STAFF

WAREHOUSE clubs could account for more than 5 per cent of total retail sales in ten years' time, posing a big threat to cash-and-carry operators and to catalogue showrooms, such as Argos and Index. Goldman Sachs, the investment bank, claims. The bank says that a survey of prices at Costco's new store at Thurrock, Essex, shows the US warehouse club to be, on average, 25 per cent cheaper on non-food items than high street rivals, with discounts of 18 per cent on hi-fi, videos, camcorders and computers.

Food is 16 per cent cheaper on average than in leading supermarkets, but, more importantly, 6 per cent cheaper than from cash-and-carry operators, such as Makro. Goldman claims. Because Costco sells food in large-pack sizes, Goldman says, the warehouse club is likely to hit the market share of cash and carry operators rather than major supermarkets.

Goldman found Costco 20 per cent cheaper, on average, for 16 comparable Argos items.

Heseltine warned on British Gas's future



Heseltine: decision soon

BY GRAHAM SEARJEANT, FINANCIAL EDITOR

PROSHARE, the organisation promoting share ownership, has protested to Michael Heseltine, the President of the Board of Trade, that two million British Gas shareholders are in danger of being ignored and penalised by his impending ruling on the company's future. Mr Heseltine is expected to rule this week on the Monopolies Commission reports on the company, published in August. If he does not, the decision will have to be delayed until the New Year.

In a letter to Mr Heseltine, Geoffrey Maddrell, ProShare's chief executive, points out that more than a fifth of shareholders in Britain own shares in British Gas and most have held their shares since privatisation, in 1986. Their fate could therefore be crucial to the future of share ownership. Although there are three times as many private shareholders as in 1979, numbers have fallen by about 1.7 million since the 1990-91 peak.

Mr Maddrell argues that the commission's recommendations that British Gas should divest its trading business, and eventually lose the tariff monopoly on small customers, would contradict the terms of the 25-year licence the company was given at privatisation. The recommendations were based not on any criticism of British Gas's performance on price or service but on the theoretical ground that its structure gave rise to "an inherent conflict of interest" that might deter competitors.

Mr Maddrell's greater worry is, however, that political manoeuvring since the commission's report could cause British Gas simply to be deprived of more business, without the compensation to shareholders envisaged in the report. The commission recommended a relaxation of price limits to take account of the previous shrinking of the tariff monopoly in 1992 and said customers should pay the cost of reorganisation. It acknowledged that further short-term increases in price limits would be necessary if the monopoly were further eroded and British Gas were left with an obligation to supply the smallest customers, who are cross-subsidised on the single tariff by richer households.

Mr Heseltine is under political pressure to increase competition but not prices. It has been suggested that regional gas supply monopolies could be franchised, mostly to foreign utilities, at British Gas's expense.

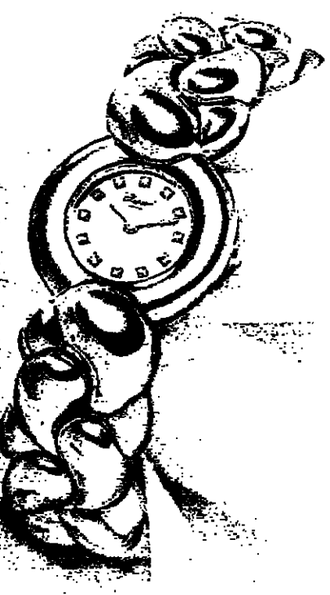
ProShare is to poll 25,000 British Gas shareholders, in conjunction with MORI, on the commission's proposals. Other shareholders are invited to send their opinions to *ProShare (UK), Freepost KE8391, London EC2B 2LD*

Graham Searjeant, page 34

Chopard

GENÈVE

depuis 1860

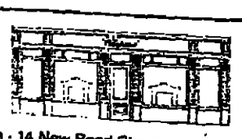


La Collection

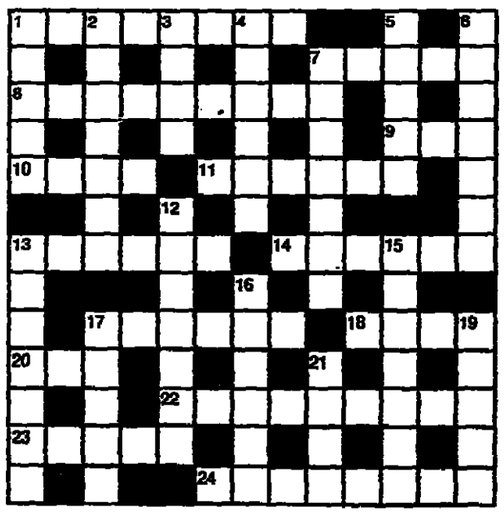
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Just released for Christmas. The Times Crosswords — Book 17. The Times Concise Crosswords — Book 5. The Sunday Times Crosswords — Book 12. £4.25 each.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

NO 37

ACROSS

1 One called identically (8)
7 Burner for heating (5)
8 Non-existent "discovery" (5,4)
9 Collection (3)
10 Aperture (4)
11 Members of nation (6)
13 Tight necklace (6)
14 Condition (usually fine) (6)
17 Dig; investigate in detail (6)
18 School class (4)
20 Restriction (3)
22 Bird shot by sparrow (4,5)
23 Textile dyeing method (5)
24 Lack of character (5)

DOWN

1 Mayfly larva (5)
2 Dark, sour cherry (7)
3 Ancient Babylonian capital (4)
4 Plain earring (6)
5 Theatre audience (5)
6 Remaining trace (7)
7 King, fought Matilda (7)
12 Deprive (a priest) (7)
13 One easily reduced to tears (3-4)
15 Vexation (7)
16 Give assent (6)
17 Beast (5)
19 Subtraction sign (5)
21 Open-sided cart (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 36

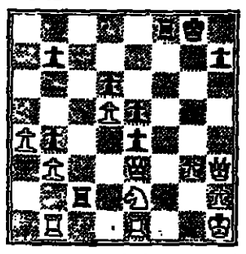
ACROSS: 1 Plenum 5 Albion 8 Town 9 Athletic 10 Hotspur 11 Other 13 Academicals 16 Roverse 18 Offbeat 21 Bigamous 22 City 23 United 24 Ranger

DOWN: 2 Leonora 3 Nines 4 Measures 5 Ache 6 Beef tea 7 Olive 12 Diffuser 14 Abeyant 15 Startle 17 Onion 19 Bacon 20 Loud

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Keene - Botvinnik, Hastings 1966. Mikhail Botvinnik was the dominant world champion from 1948 to 1963. In this position he is a piece down. His next move lost. Can you do better? This year's Hastings Premier takes place at the Cinque Ports Hotel in the town from December 29 to January 6. For details ring 0424 445348.



Solution, page 33

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

DENDROBE
a. A smoking jacket
b. An orchid
c. A computer terminal

EPIGASTRIC
a. Ventriloquism
b. Additional
c. Angry

PROSOPOPEIA
a. A portrait
b. An imaginary speaker
c. Keen inspection

REFOCILLATION
a. Fallow rotation
b. Recognition
c. Refreshment

Answers on page 33

هكذا من الأصل